# **EXHIBIT C**

| 1  | UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT                           |
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| 2  | FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA             |
| 3  | CHARLESTON DIVISION                                    |
| 4  |  |
| 5  | IN RE: ETHICON, INC. PELVIC Master File No.            |
| 6  | REPAIR SYSTEM PRODUCTS 2:12-MD-02327                   |
| 7  | LIABILITY LITIGATION MDL No. 2327                      |
| 8  | JOSEPH R. GOODWIN                                      |
| 9  | THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO: U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE          |
| 10 | All TVT-0 Cases  |
| 11 |  |
| 12 |  |
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| 16 | VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF EXPERT WITNESS                |
| 17 | MAREENI STANISLAUS, M.D.                               |
| 18 | Paso Robles, California                                |
| 19 | Friday, July 15, 2016                                  |
| 20 |  |
| 21 |  |
| 22 |  |
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| 24 | Reported by: Ashala Tylor, CSR No. 2436, CLR, CRR, RPR |
| 25 | Job #136049  |

|   | P 3  | c   | ,<br>D. 4   |
|---|--|---|---|
| 1 -   | Page 2   |   | Page 4  |
| 1   | 11,221   | 1   | EXHIBITS (continued)  |
| 3   | WITNESS: MAREENI STANISLAUS, M.D.<br>EXAMINATION PAGE  | 2   | NO. DESCRIPTION PAGE  |
| 4   | By Mr. Jackson 8, 150  | 3   | Exhibit 14 Document entitled "41st Annual 142   |
| 5   | By Mr. Koopmann 121  |   | Meeting-Cape Town, South Africa   |
| 6   | , 1  | _   |   |
| 7   | EXHIBITS   | 4   | August 4 - 5, 2016," no Bates   |
| 8   | NO. DESCRIPTION PAGE Exhibit 1 Expert report by Mareeni 12   | 5   |   |
| _   | Stanislaus, M.D., no Bates   | 6   |   |
| 10  | , ,  | 7   | INFORMATION REQUESTED   |
| 1,,   | Exhibit 2 CV of Mareeni Stanislaus, M.D., 12   | 8   | (None)  |
| 11  | no Bates Exhibit 3 Document titled "Mareeni Stanislaus 12  | 9   | QUESTIONS NOT ANSWERED  |
| 12  | Reliance List, in Addition to  | 10  | Page 47, Line 6   |
| 13  | Materials Referenced in Report,  |   | rage 47, Line 0   |
|   | MDL Wave 2," no Bates  | 11  |   |
| 14  |  | 12  |   |
| 15  | Exhibit 4 Notice of Video Deposition of Deposition of Mareeni Stanislaus,  | 13  |   |
|   | M.D., no Bates   | 14  |   |
| 16  |  | 15  |   |
| 17  | Exhibit 5 Binder titled "Dr. Stanislaus's 14 General TVT-O," no Bates  | 16  |   |
| 18  |  | 17  |   |
|   | Binder 1"  | 18  |   |
| 19  | Edition District Conference  |   |   |
| 20  | Exhibit 6-B Binder titled "TVT Company 61 Documents"   | 19  |   |
|   | Exhibit 6-C Binder titled "TVT-O Company 61  | 20  |   |
|   | Documents"   | 21  |   |
| 22  | E 1915 CD Di 1 dia 1900 marchi 1   | 22  |   |
| 23  | Exhibit 6-D Binder titled "TVT Medical 61 Literature"  | 23  |   |
|   | Exhibit 6-E Binder titled "TVT Company/FDA 61  | 24  |   |
|   | Documents"   | 25  |   |
| 25  |  | 23  |   |
|   | Page 3   |   | Page 5  |
| 1   | EXHIBITS (continued)   | 1   | UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  |
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| 3   |  | 1 2   |   |
|   | Exhibit 6-E Rinder titled "SUI Mech Documents 61   | 2   | FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA  |
| 4   | Exhibit 6-F Binder titled "SUI Mesh Documents, 61<br>Binder 2"   | 3   | CHARLESTON DIVISION   |
| 4 5   | Binder 2" Exhibit 6-G Binder titled "TVT literature and 61   |   |   |
|   | Binder 2" Exhibit 6-G Binder titled "TVT literature and 61 Position Statements"  | 3 4   |   |
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|  | Page 6  |  | Page 8   |
|--|---|--|--|
| 1 2  | APPEARNCES  | 1  | MAREENI STANISLAUS, M.D.,  |
| 3  | FOR THE PLAINTIFFS:   | 2  | having been first placed under oath,   |
| 4  | WEXLER WALLACE LLP  | 3  | was examined and testified as follows:   |
|  | BY: TIM E. JACKSON, ESQ.  | 4  | THE VIDEOGRAPHER: You may begin.   |
| 5  | 55 West Monroe Street, Suite 3300   | 5  |  |
|  | Chicago, Illinois 60603   | 6  | EXAMINATION  |
| 6  | 312.346.2222  | 7  | BY MR. JACKSON:  |
| 7  | tej@wexlerwallace.com   | 8  | Q. Doctor, could you please state and spell your   |
| 8  | FOR DEFENDANTS:   | 9  | name for the record?   |
| 9  | BOWMAN AND BROOKE LLP   | 10   | A. Mareeni Stanislaus. I'm sorry. Mareeni  |
|  | BY: BARRY J. KOOPMANN, ESQ.   | 11   | Therese Stanislaus, M.D.   |
| 10   | 150 South Fifth Street, Suite 3000  | 12   | Q. Could you please spell that for the record?   |
| 11   | Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402 612.339.8682   | 13   | A. Yes. M-A-R-E-E-N-I, middle name   |
|  | barry.koopmann@bowmanandbrooke.com  | 14   |  |
| 12   | ourly.koopmanic bownanandorooke.com   |  | S-T-A-N-I-S-L-A-U-S.   |
| 13   | Also Present: Michael Brewer, Videographer  | 16   | Q. Okay. Thank you.  |
| 14   |   | 17   | Doctor, I introduced myself to you before we   |
| 15   |   |  | •  |
| 17   |   | 18   | got on the record, but my name is Tim Jackson, and I'm   |
| 18   |   |  | from a law firm called Wexler Wallace in Chicago. And  |
| 19   |   | 20   | you're here today to give testimony about your TVT-O   |
| 20   |   |  | report in this case; is that correct?  |
| 21 22  |   | 22   | A. That is correct.  |
| 23   |   | 23   | Q. Okay. And is there any reason you feel you  |
| 24   |   | 24   | cannot testify fully and accurately today?   |
| 25   |   | 25   | A. No.   |
|  |   |  |  |
|  | Page 7  |  | Page 9   |
| 1  | Page 7 Friday, July 15, 2016; 1:04 p.m.   | 1  |  |
| 1 2  | Page 7 Friday, July 15, 2016; 1:04 p.m. Paso Robles, California   | 1 2  | Q. If I ask something and it's not clear what I'm  |
|  | Friday, July 15, 2016; 1:04 p.m.  | 2  | Q. If I ask something and it's not clear what I'm asking, I'd just ask that you let me know that and I'll  |
| 2  | Friday, July 15, 2016; 1:04 p.m.  | 2 3  | Q. If I ask something and it's not clear what I'm asking, I'd just ask that you let me know that and I'll do my best to rephrase the question so you understand  |
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Page 10 Page 12 1 Q. Okay. So are you counting those three 1 a true and accurate copy of the report you provided in <sup>2</sup> separate depositions in your total of five? 2 this case. 3 (Exhibit 1 was marked for A. Yes. Q. Okay. So there were two other instances where identification and attached hereto.) 5 you had your deposition taken? (Pause while witness peruses document.) A. Yes. THE WITNESS: Yes. 7 Q. Okay. And what -- can you tell us what those BY MR. JACKSON: 8 two other instances were? Q. Doctor, we've premarked as Exhibit 2 what I'll 9 A. They were in regards to malpractice <sup>9</sup> represent is the CV that was provided along with your 10 litigation. report. 11 Q. Okay. And were you a defendant in those 11 (Exhibit 2 was marked for 12 12 cases? identification and attached hereto.) 13 A. Yes. 13 BY MR. JACKSON: 14 14 Q. Okay. In both of them? Q. Does that look like a reasonably accurate copy 15 15 of your CV? 16 Q. Okay. And can you tell us what the dates of 16 A. Yes. 17 17 those two cases were? Q. Okay. And, Doctor, what's been marked as A. They were subsequently dropped without Exhibit 3 is the Mareeni Stanislaus reliance list in 19 prejudice. 2002, I think, and perhaps 2007. addition to materials referenced in reports that were 20 Q. Okay. Thank you. provided with your report in this case. 21 And, Doctor, prior to this case, have you ever 21 (Exhibit 3 was marked for 22 been retained as an expert witness before? 22 identification and attached hereto.) 23 23 BY MR. JACKSON: A. No. Q. Okay. Doctor, what did you do to prepare for Q. Does that look reasonably correct to you? 25 It's a very long document. I'm not asking you to look <sup>25</sup> your deposition today? Page 11 Page 13 A. I reviewed textbooks. I reviewed my reliance 1 at every page. 2 materials. I reviewed some of the literature and A. I'm reading it --3 reviewed my report. 3 (Pause while witness peruses document.) Q. Okay. Doctor, Exhibit 4 is the Notice of Q. Okay. And when you say you reviewed 5 textbooks, would those be books that are listed on your 5 Deposition for this case. Have you seen that document 6 reliance materials? 6 before? A. Yes, I have. 7 A. I believe so, yes. 8 Q. Okay. 8 (Exhibit 4 was marked for 9 9 A. And, I'm sorry, I also consulted with my identification and attached hereto.) 10 counsel. 10 BY MR. JACKSON: 11 Q. Okay. I'm sorry, Doctor. When you say your Q. Okay. Doctor, that document asks you to bring 12 counsel, do you mean counsel for Ethicon? 12 certain documents with you today. You have those 13 A. Counsel for Ethicon, yes. documents; is that correct? Q. And, Doctor, can you give me your best guess A. Yes. I'm not sure that the correct documents 15 of about how many hours you spent just preparing for the 15 were requested because these documents seem to refer to 16 deposition today aside from writing the report? patient information, which I don't have, but I did bring 17 A. Oh, four hours. all documents that I have related to my general report. 18 18 Q. And aside from counsel, did you speak to Q. Okay. And, just generally, can you tell us 19 anyone else in regards to the deposition today prior to 19 what you brought with you today? 20 the deposition? 20 A. My report, my reliance list, literature, 21 A. No. 21 various articles. 22 Q. Doctor, before we got on the record -- strike Q. Okay. And, Doctor, I believe you have a 22 23 that. 23 binder in front of you. Can you tell us what that 24 Before we got on the record we premarked as 24 specific binder is? 25 Exhibit 1 this. And can you please confirm that that is 25 A. That is my general report with the articles

Case 2:12-md-02327 Document 2563-3 Filed 08/15/16 Page 6 of 41 PageID #: 89233 Mareeni Stanislaus, M.D. Page 14 Page 16 1 cited in my report. 1 say sometime in the last eight, nine months. 2 MR. JACKSON: Okay. And could we go ahead and Q. Sometimes in the last eight, nine months. mark that binder as Exhibit 5. 3 Could you be any more specific than that? I mean, was 3 (Exhibit 5 was marked for 4 it, you know, was it the spring of 2016? 5 A. It was probably the fall of 2015, yes. identification and attached hereto.) 6 BY MR. JACKSON: MR. KOOPMANN: Just make sure that he gets to 7 Q. Doctor, is it fair to say that -- I'm sorry. finish his question before you start answering so the 8 Doctor, is it fair to say that all of the court reporter can take everything down. footnotes from your report are contained in that binder? BY MR. JACKSON: 9 10 A. Yes. Q. So, Doctor, you were first contacted in the 11 Q. Have you written or highlighted on any of the 11 fall of 2015, approximately, about providing a report in 12 documents in the binder or are they clean copies? this case; is that correct? 13 13 A. They're clean copies. A. That is correct. 14 14 Q. Okay. And, Doctor, aside from the binder Q. And when did you begin working on that report? 15 we've marked as Exhibit 5, you also brought a number of 15 A. In April of 2016. 16 other binders with you today, correct? 16 Q. Doctor, when you say you started in April of 17 A. Yes, I did. 2016, what did you start working on in April of 2016? 18 Q. And do those represent the reliance materials A. I started reviewing some literature regarding 19 you have in this case? the TVT-O. Just refreshing my memory. 20 A. Yes, they do. 20 Q. Okay. So is it fair to say -- strike that. 21 Q. Okay. And would it be fair to say that the 21 Doctor, prior to April of 2016, had you 22 other binders, aside from Exhibit 5, are the same as the previously read literature on the TVT-O device? 23 23 documents listed on Exhibit 3, the reliance list? A. Yes, I had. A. Yes. I'm not entirely sure if they're all in 24 Q. Okay. And, Doctor, when did you submit your 25 there, but I think so. 25 report in this case, approximately? Page 15 Page 17 Q. Okay. Is it fair to say there wouldn't be any A. It was June -- sorry. This is July. Forgive 2 new documents in the binders that are not on the 2 me. June -- I've forgotten the exact date, actually. 3 reliance list? Q. Doctor, is it fair to say you submitted your A. Yes, that would be fair to say. 4 report sometime --Q. And I think what I'd like to do, if we could, A. Yes, I --6 is mark all the other binders, aside from Exhibit 5, as 6 Q. -- in June of 2016? 7 Exhibit 6 collectively. And then when we're on a break, THE REPORTER: One at a time, please. 8 I can look at those a little more carefully. 8 Q. June of 2016? 9 9 Doctor, did you also bring some thumb drives A. Agreed. 10 with you today? 10 Q. Thank you. And, Doctor, at the time you 11 A. Yes, I did. submitted your report in this case, do you know how much 12 Q. Okay. And what's on those thumb drives? time you'd spent preparing that report? 13 A. The complete set of documents and articles 13 A. Approximately 30 hours. related to this case that I reviewed. They principally Q. Doctor, have you submitted an invoice for your are the same as what is in these binders. time in this case? 16 16 A. Yes, I have. MR. JACKSON: Could we mark the thumb drives 17 17 as Exhibit 7? Q. And is that information you brought with you 18 (Exhibit 7-A was marked for 18 today? 19 identification and attached hereto.) 19 A. It was previously provided in the prior 20 (Exhibit 7-B was marked for 20 deposition. identification and attached hereto.) 21 MR. KOOPMANN: Mr. Jackson, just for the

23

2.4

25 work in this case?

providing a report in this case?

Q. Doctor, when were you first contacted about

A. I don't remember the exact date, but I would

22 BY MR. JACKSON:

23

24

25

22 record, I think it was in the Hoke deposition.

MR. JACKSON: Thank you, Counsel.

Q. Doctor, what is your hourly rate for expert

- 1 A. \$400 an hour.
- Q. And is that for any work you do in this case?
- 3 A. Yes

6

- 4 Q. And, Doctor, we have a copy of your CV, so I
- <sup>5</sup> won't spend an inordinate time on that issue.
  - Could you tell us when where you went to
- 7 medial school?
- 8 A. I went to medical school at the University of
- <sup>9</sup> California, San Diego.
- Q. Okay. And, Doctor, where did you do your
- 11 undergrad?
- 12 A. At Stanford.
- Q. Okay. And you did a residency after medical
- 14 school?
- 15 A. I did.
- Q. Where was that?
- A. My residency was at the Hospital of the
- <sup>18</sup> University of Pennsylvania.
- Q. And, Doctor, did you do a fellowship?
- A. I did not.
- Q. Doctor, what professional training do you have
- 22 post-residency?
- A. Just my residency. And ongoing continuing
- 24 medical education courses.
- Q. And, Doctor, when did you complete your

- Page 20
  Q. And when did they begin offering that board
  - <sup>2</sup> certification?
  - 3 A. I'm not aware of the exact date. My
  - 4 recollection is sometime around 2006, maybe.
    - Q. Okay. That's something you have not pursued,
  - 6 though?
  - 7 A. No, I have not.
  - 8 Q. Okay. Is it something you could pursue?
  - 9 A. At this point it would be very difficult for
  - 10 me to pursue that. No, so...
  - 11 Q. Okay. Doctor, what does a board certification
  - 12 in female pelvic health and reconstructive surgery
  - 13 entail?
  - MR. KOOPMANN: Object to the form.
  - THE WITNESS: To be honest, I haven't reviewed
  - 16 the exact requirements. My understanding is that it
  - 17 requires devoting greater than 50 percent of your
  - 18 practice to female pelvic medicine and completing
  - 19 fellowship training. I don't remember if that training
  - 20 requires two or three years post-residency.
  - 21 BY MR. JACKSON:
  - Q. Doctor, would it be fair to say that a
  - 23 physician who had a board certification in female pelvic
  - 24 health and reconstructive surgery has training and
  - 25 education above and beyond what you, yourself, have?

Page 21

- 1 residency?
- 2 A. In 1996, July.
- 3 Q. And, Doctor, you mentioned continuing medical
- 4 education. Is that the phrase you used?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. What do you mean by that term?
- A. Attending courses sponsored by the various
- 8 organizations relevant to my specialty; reading
- <sup>9</sup> materials; maintaining my board certification.
- Q. Doctor, what board certification do you hold?
- 11 A. The American Board of Obstetrics In
- 12 Gynecology.
- Q. So, Doctor, you are board certified in
- 14 obstetric -- obstetrics and gynecology; is that correct?
- 15 A. That is correct.
- Q. Okay. And, Doctor, is that certification done
- 17 on a state level or is it on the national level?
- A. The national level.
- 19 Q. And, Doctor, does the American Board of
- 20 Obstetrics and Gynecology offer a board certification in
- 21 female pelvic health and reconstructive surgery?
- A. They did not at the time that I graduated
- 23 residency, but they do now.
- Q. Okay. They do now.
- A. Uh-huh.

- A. That would not be fair to say.
- 2 Q. And why not?
- A. It is a new specialty. And at the time that I
- 4 completed my training I had the same training and,
- <sup>5</sup> perhaps, more experience, than many of the current
- 6 trainees in female pelvic medicine and reconstructive
- <sup>7</sup> surgery.
- 8 Q. Okay. Doctor, you completed your residency
- 9 20 years ago?
- 10 A. Correct.
- Q. Okay. And, Doctor, in that 20 years you could
- 12 have obtained a board certification in female pelvic
- 13 health and reconstructive surgery?
- MR. KOOPMANN: Object to form.
- 15 (Reporter clarification.)
- MR. KOOPMANN: Object to form.
- THE WITNESS: That is not something that I
- would have required to practice my specialty. But the
- specific answer is, I suppose I could have.
- 20 BY MR. KOOPMANN:
- Q. Doctor, do you know how many -- I'm sorry.
- 22 Strike that.
- Do you know about how many physicians in the
- 24 United States are board certified in female pelvic
- <sup>25</sup> health and reconstructive surgery?

- 1 A. I do not.
- 2 Q. Do you have a sense of if it's more or less
- 3 than a thousand?
- A. My sense is that it's less than a thousand.
- Q. Doctor, do you consider yourself an expert in
- 6 female pelvic medicine and reconstructive surgery?
- A. I certainly do.
- Q. Doctor, have you performed research in your
- 9 medical career regarding treatments for stress urinary
- 10 incontinence?
- 11 A. I have not.
- 12 Q. Doctor, have you performed any research in
- 13 your career regarding polypropylene mesh for the
- treatment of stress urinary incontinence?
- 15 A. I have not published research. I have
- 16 examined my own outcomes.
- 17 Q. Doctor, when you say you examined your own
- 18 outcomes, can you explain what you mean by that?
- 19 A. I take care of my patients. I follow them
- 20 intraoperatively and postoperatively to see how they're
- 21 doing.
- 22 Q. Okay. Doctor, have you authored any
- publications in your medical career?
- 24 A. No, I have not.
- 25 Q. Doctor, have you ever served on a peer review

- Page 24 1 you haven't implanted one in six years, can you just
- 2 reconcile what that means?
- A. That means that I consider the TVT obturator
- 4 device in armamentarium of devices to be used for stress
- 5 incontinence. In recent times, I have been preferring
- 6 to use a mini sling device, but in the appropriate
- patients I would still use a TVT obturator.
- Q. When you say "the appropriate patients," can
- you tell me what you mean by that?
- A. So I counsel my patients as to the
- 11 risks/benefits of any incontinence procedure. I present
- the potential morbidity to them and help them come to a
- decision as to which procedure to perform. Recently my
- patients have been choosing to have the mini sling.
- Q. And, Doctor, when you say morbidity, what does
- 16 that mean?
- A. That means pain after surgery. That means
- recovery, loss of time from work, potential
- intraoperative complications, needing to -- well,
- voiding problems, things I discuss with any surgical
- patient, uh-huh.
- 22 Q. And so, Doctor, is it fair to say that
- 23 different -- different sling devices for the treatments
- of stress urinary incontinence have different
- morbidities associated with them?

Page 23

- A. Different sling devices, that's a broad term.
  - 2 But, yes, because of pubovaginal slings have different

Page 25

- 3 morbidities than polypropylene, yes, that's true,
- Q. I didn't ask a very good question. Let me ask
- a better one.
- Doctor, does the TVT retropubic device have a
- different morbidity associated with it than the TVT
- obturator device?
- 10 A. Yes, slightly.
- 11 Q. When you say "slightly," what do you mean by
- 12 that?
- 13 A. I think their overall morbidity is about the
- same, but the particular location of, say, postoperative
- pain might be slightly different that with the two
- 16 techniques.
- 17 Q. Doctor, when you say their overall morbidities
- are approximately the same, what's your basis for that
- 19 statement?
- 20 A. That would be the -- review the literature,
- multi-center randomized trials.
- 22 Q. Doctor, have you reviewed some literature as
- part of your work in this case that points out different
- complications associated with the TVT retropubic device
- versus the TVT obturator device?

- 1 board for a medical journal?
- 2 A. No, I have not.
- Q. Doctor, have you ever directed a clinical
- 4 study regarding treatments for stress urinary
- 5 incontinence?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. Doctor, have you ever directed any clinical
- study regarding polypropylene mesh in any application?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. Doctor, have you ever directed a clinical
- 11 study of any kind?
- 12 A. Not as a principal director, no.
- 13 Q. Other than as a principal director, have you
- 14 ever directed a clinical trial?
- 15 A. I'm presently involved in facilitating some
- 16 clinical trials for a postpartum hemorrhage device.
- 17 Q. Doctor, do you currently implant the TVT
- 19 A. I do.

18 obturator device?

- 20 Q. And, Doctor, when did you last implant a TVT
- 21 obturator device in a patient?
- 22 A. I don't remember the exact date. It's been
- 23 about six years.
- Q. So, Doctor, just so we're clear, when you say
- 25 you do currently implant the TVT obturator product but

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. When you say the TVT retropubic device and the
- 3 TVT obturator device have approximately the same
- 4 morbidities associated with them, what does
- 5 "approximately" mean in that context?
- 6 A. Within a few percentage points either way.
- 7 Q. Doctor, are you aware of any published
- 8 literature where there have been statistically
- 9 significant differences in complication rates between
- 10 the TVT retropubic device and the TVT obturator device?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Do you find those studies relevant and
- 13 reliable?
- 14 MR. KOOPMANN: Object to form.
- 15 THE WITNESS: It's hard to comment on some
- 16 studies. I'd have to know which studies. But in
- 17 reference to my statement, I would say that there --
- 18 when reviewing any study, it's important to note the
- 19 statistical significance and also the potential clinical
- 20 significance because to a particular patient a
- 21 particular morbidity may be more relevant, so...
- 22 BY MR. JACKSON:
- 23 Q. Doctor, about how many TVT-O procedures have
- 24 you performed in your career?
- 25 A. Approximately 150.

1 Q. Doctor, when was the first time you had any

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- 2 interaction with Ethicon?
- A. Oh, I really can't remember. I must have had
- 4 some interaction when I was a resident in the, you know,
- early '90s.
- Q. Okay. Doctor, prior to implanting the TVT
- obturator in 2004, did you also implant the TVT
- retropubic device?
- A. Yes, I did.
- Q. And prior to implanting the TVT retropubic
- 11 device, are there any other Ethicon devices you
- implanted before the TVT retropubic?
- 13 A. Before the TVT retropubic? Sorry. Ethicon
- incontinence -- sorry, what was your question? Repeat
- 16 Q. Let me ask a better question.
- 17 Doctor, did you implant any Ethicon -- strike
- 18 that.
- 19 Doctor, did you use any Ethicon products for
- any indication, not just stress urinary incontinence,
- prior to using the TVT retropubic device?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 O. And what devices would those be?
- 24 A. So that is difficult for me to answer because
- 25 I didn't always pay attention to who the manufacturer

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- Q. And when did you start using the TVT 1
- 2 obturator?
- 3 A. So I did not review my exact date of start,
- 4 but it was approximately 2004.
- 6 using it about six years ago?

Q. And, Doctor, I think you said you stopped

- 7 A. I have not stopped using it, but the last time
- 8 I used it was approximately six years ago. 9 Q. I apologize.
- 10 Doctor, is it fair to say that you implanted
- 11 150 TVT-O devices between 2004 and 2010?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. And, Doctor, how did you come to use the TVT
- 14 obturator device initially?
- 15 A. I was introduced to it, I think, first by
- 16 reading some articles in the literature. And I went to
- 17 a training course sponsored by Ethicon to further
- 18 understand the anatomy of the device and practice on a
- 19 cadaver.
- 20 Q. So, Doctor, you read articles about the TVT
- 21 obturator device before using it in 2004; is that
- 22 correct?
- 23 A. I do not recall whether they were specific to
- 24 the TVT obturator device, but they were relevant to the
- 25 technique, yes.

Page 29 1 was, but I suspect that I used some of the laparoscopic

- 2 equipment. And also -- sorry -- I'm sure I used their
- 3 suture.
- Q. And, doctor, when you say "laparoscopic
- equipment," that's not anything that's permanently
- implanted, is it?
- A. Laparoscopic equipment, they may have made a
- stapler that that would be permanently implanted. The
- staples remain.
- 10 Q. Okay. Doctor, when -- have you implanted both
- 11 mechanical cut and laser cut TVT obturator devices?
- 12 A. To the best of my knowledge, yes.
  - Q. Okay. Doctor, when you're doing a TVT
- obturator surgery, do you know whether it's a
- mechanically cut or a laser cut product?
- 16 A. I do know how to find out, but it's not
- something that I specifically request one or the other.
- Q. Doctor, if you were to hold a mechanically cut
- TVT obturator mesh in one hand and a laser cut TVT
- obturator mesh in the hand and just visually looked at
- them, could you tell a difference?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. And how could you tell a difference?
- 24 A. I haven't done this in some time, but I think
- 25 the edges are slightly different, the look to the edge.

- Q. And can you be any more specific there?
- A. Not particularly. They look quite similar.
- Q. Okay. But you believe the edges might look a
- 4 little different?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Okay. And so, Doctor, other than the TVT
- <sup>7</sup> obturator device, do you currently implant any other
- 8 Ethicon devices for stress urinary incontinence?
- 9 A. Yes, the TVT-Exact.
- Q. And when was the last time you implanted a
- 11 TVT-Exact?
- 12 A. Three months ago.
- Q. And about how many TVT-Exacts have you
- 14 implanted in your career?
- 15 A. The actual Exact, not that many. Probably 20.
- Q. Okay. And, Doctor, other than the obturator
- 17 and the exact, are there any other Ethicon devices that
- 18 you currently implant?
- A. I have not used any lately, but, yes, the
- 20 Abbrevo. That's it.
- Q. And, Doctor, when did you last implant an
- 22 Abbrevo?
- A. Gosh, more than six years ago. Maybe eight
- 24 years ago.
- Q. And about how many Abbrevos have you

- 1 a guess. Probably 2005.
  - Q. Doctor, when was the first time you ever

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- <sup>3</sup> worked with polypropylene mesh of any type?
- A. I really don't remember the exact date. It
- 5 must have been sometime around 1997 or '8.
- 6 Q. And was that for an indication other than SUI
- 7 repair?

16

24

- 8 A. Yes.
- Q. What would that have been for?
- 10 A. Abdominal sacral colpopexy.
- Q. Doctor, have you performed Burch procedures
- 12 for stress urinary incontinence repair?
- 13 A. Yes, I have.
- Q. And when did you last perform a Burch
  - procedure for stress urinary incontinence repair?
  - A. Approximately two years ago.
- Q. Doctor, would you agree that the Burch
- 8 procedure is within the standard of care for treating
- 19 stress urinary incontinence?
- A. Yes, it is within the standard of care.
- Q. And, Doctor, how many Burch procedures have
- 22 you performed in your career?
- A. Approximately 200.
  - Q. Doctor, have you attended any Ethicon
- 25 training?
  - 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Okay. And was that training specific to
- 3 stress urinary incontinence products?
- A. Yes
- 5 Q. Okay. And which products did you specifically
- 6 attend Ethicon training on?
- 7 A. I specifically attended training on the TVT
- 8 obturator. I attended training on Prolift. And I may
- 9 have also attended training on the TVT Secure. I can't
- 10 remember if that was at the same time as the Prolift or
- 11 not.
- Q. And, Doctor, have you ever implanted the TVT
- 13 Secure?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. You have. And when did you last implant a TVT
- 16 Secure?
- A. It's been many years. Perhaps 2011.
- Q. And, Doctor, the TVT obturator Ethicon
- 19 training you mentioned you attended, do you remember
- 20 approximately when that was?
- A. No. It -- approximately 2004.
- 22 Q. And do you remember where you attended that
- 23 training?
- A. I recall it was in Phoenix.
- Q. And, Doctor, just can you describe what the

- 1 implanted?
- 2 A. Four, five.
- Q. Okay. Doctor, do you currently implant the
- 4 retropubic TVT device?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. You do. Okay. And when did you last implant
- 7 a retropubic TVT device?
- 8 A. Forgive me. I may be misspeaking. I equate
- 9 the TVT-Exact with the retropubic TVT device. Are we
- 10 speaking of the same thing?
- 11 Q. No.
- 12 A. Okay.
- Q. Doctor, are you aware that there was a
- 14 retropubic TVT device prior to the launch of the
- 15 TVT-Exact?
- 16 A. Yes, I am.
- Q. Okay. And do you currently implant the
- 18 retropubic non-Exact TVT device?
- 19 A. No, I do not.
- Q. You do not. Have you ever implanted the
- 21 retropubic non-Exact TVT device?
- A. Yes, I have.
- Q. And when did you last implant the retropubic
- 24 non-Exact TVT device?
- A. Gosh, it would have been -- it's really quite

1 training entailed?

- 2 A. It entailed morning of lectures and videos,
- 3 and then I think the afternoon was a cadaver lab
- 4 implanting the device.
- Q. And, Doctor, did you receive any sort of
- 6 certificate as a result of that training?
- A. I would have. Yes, I did.
- Q. Doctor, I'm going to turn to your report,
- 9 which I think we marked as Exhibit 1.
- 10 A. Okay.
- 11 Q. And, Doctor, if you'd like to refer to the
- 12 report you brought with you or Exhibit 1, whichever you
- 13 prefer.
- 14 A. Uh-huh.
- 15 Q. Doctor, I'm just going to start on page 5.
- 16 Could you let me know when you're on page 5 of your
- 17 report?
- 18 A. Yes, I'm on page 5.
- 19 Q. And I'm -- this is a section called Clinical
- 20 Experience & Personal Experience with SUI Treatments; is
- 21 that correct?
- 22 A. That is correct.
- 23 Q. And, Doctor, what clinical experience are you
- 24 describing on this page?
- 25 A. That's my care for patients.

- Page 34 Page 36
  - 1 procedures, I recognized that this was something I 2 should learn to do.

  - Q. Okay. So, Doctor, just so I'm clear, you're
  - -- strike that.
  - Doctor, are you saying that you -- due to the
  - 6 literature accumulating on the device, you were inspired
  - <sup>7</sup> to go out and start performing the device yourself?
  - A. That is what I'm saying.
    - Q. Okay. And, Doctor, further down on page 5,
  - the first sentence of the last paragraph it says, "When
  - the TVT was first introduced, I waited until there was a
  - wealth of peer-reviewed data surrounding it before
  - adopting it into my practice, but I have been
  - overwhelmingly pleased with the results since I have
  - adopted it and other mid-urethral slings."
  - 16 Did I read that correctly?
  - 17 A. Yes, you did.
  - 18 Q. And, Doctor, when you use the TVT in this
  - context, what are you referring to?
  - A. In this context, I'm referring to the 20
  - polypropylene mid-urethral sling.
  - 22 Q. And when you say, "When the TVT was first
  - 23 introduced," are you referring to a specific iteration
  - of the TVT or the entire family of TVT?
  - A. In this particular sentence I suppose I would

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- Q. And, Doctor, I'm looking at a sentence, the 1
- 2 second sentence in the second paragraph. It says, "I
- 3 learned the procedures after residency, due to the
- 4 ever-growing body of literature which supported their
- 5 efficacy in the setting of marked improvement and return
- 6 to normal function."
- Did I read that correctly?
- 8 A. Yes, you did.
- 9 Q. What do you mean by that sentence?
- 10 A. I mean that I chose to learn this technique
- 11 once I recognized through reading of the literature that
- 12 it was a technique that would provide great -- a great
- 13 boon to women in that they can return to work faster and
- 14 still have an effective procedure for their
- 15 incontinence.
- 16 Q. And, Doctor, you mentioned the literature in
- 17 this sentence.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And I'm just curious, can you just explain to
- 20 me what the ever-growing body of literature means in
- 21 that context?
- 22 A. At that time I typically read The Green
- 23 Journal and The Gray Journal, and some of the other
- 24 throw-away publications like Contemporary OB-GYN. And
- 25 as I saw more and more information regarding the sling

- 1 be referring to the first TVT, the retropubic.
- Q. Okay. And that would be the non-Exact
- 3 retropubic?
  - A. Correct, yes.
- Q. And, Doctor, you say you waited until there
- 6 was a wealth of peer-reviewed data surrounding it before
- adopting it into your practice, correct?
- A. Yes, I did.
- 9 Q. And so when did you adopt it into your
- 10 practice?
- 11 A. The -- approximately 2002.
- 12 Q. And, Doctor, when did the TVT retropubic --
- 13 I'm sorry, strike that.
- Doctor, when was the retropubic TVT first
- 15 marketed in the United States?
- 16 A. I think it was in 1998.
- 17 Q. Okay. And, so, Doctor, do you believe that
- prior to 2002 there was inadequate data surrounding the
- 19 TVT retropubic?
- 20 MR. KOOPMANN: Object to form.
- THE WITNESS: There was excellent data prior
- 22 to 2002. I chose to be cautious and wait until it was
- more widely accepted.
- BY MR. JACKSON:
- 25 Q. Okay. Doctor, when you say there was

| T.    | 20 |
|-------|----|
| Page  | 38 |
| 1 age | 20 |

- 1 excellent data surrounding the TVT retropubic prior to
- 2 2002, is there any specific data you're referring to as
- 3 excellent?
- 4 A. Oh, well, I read the initial -- I think it was
- 5 an Omsten article.
- 6 Could you repeat your question? You were
- <sup>7</sup> saying prior to 2002?
- 8 Q. Let me back up, Doctor. You state here
- 9 that -- strike that.
- Doctor, you waited until 2002 to start using
- 11 the TVT retropubic device, correct?
- 12 A. Correct.
- Q. And you state in your report you waited until
- 14 there was a wealth of peer-reviewed data.
- 15 A. I did.
- Q. Okay. And so do you believe that prior to
- 17 2002, there was a wealth of peer-reviewed data on the
- 18 TVT retropubic device?
- A. I do believe there was a wealth of
- 20 peer-reviewed data prior to 2002, yes.
- Q. So, Doctor, why did you wait until 2002 to
- 22 start using the TVT retropubic device?
- A. Because I had wonderful success with my Burch
- 24 procedures. I didn't have a strong impetus to change.
- 25 But as I read the data and realized that women were

- Page 40
- $\,{\scriptstyle 1}\,\,$  page 5 that begins, "I routinely have patients," does
- 2 that refer just to the TVT obturator or does it refer to3 multiple products?
- 3 multiple products:
- A. It refers to polypropylene sling products generally.
- 6 Q. Doctor, can you definitively say that any of
- 7 those instances involved TVT obturator products?
- 8 A. Yes, I can.
- Q. And how can you be sure?
- 10 A. Well, during that particular time was when my
- 11 children were playing soccer, and I would see these moms
- 2 at the soccer field. And at the period of time I was
- 3 using the TVT-O, I was using it almost exclusively.
- Q. And, Doctor, what -- during what time period
- 5 were you using the TVT-O almost exclusively?
- 16 A. About 2004 to about 2009.
- Q. And, Doctor, do you recall the last time a
- woman came up to you in the grocery store and shared a
- 19 positive experience with a TVT product with you?
- 20 A. With any TVT product, not specifically the
- 21 TVT-O?
- 22 Q. Correct.
- A. Oh, about a month ago.
  - Q. And, Doctor, do you recall the last time a
- 25 woman came up to you in a grocery store and shared a

- 1 doing better, I thought I better look into this a little
- 2 further.
- Q. Okay. So is it fair to say that you wanted to
- 4 be cautious before you started using it?
- 5 A. I typically am cautious, so, yes, it is fair
- 6 to say that. However, part of my delay in adopting it
- 7 was I didn't have a need to adopt it due to my good
- 8 outcomes with the Burch.
- 9 Q. Doctor, the next sentence on page 5 states, "I
- 10 routinely have patients approach me at the grocery store
- 11 and at social events with tears of gratitude in their
- 12 eyes for the improvement they have experienced and their
- 13 quality of life from the mesh sling procedure."
- Did I read that correctly?
- 15 A. Yes, you did.
- 16 Q. And that must be very rewarding.
- 17 A. It is.
- Q. And about how many times has that happened
- 19 where a patient approached you in a grocery store?
- 20 A. Oh, 50
- Q. And would those 50 patients who approached you
- 22 in a grocery store include multiple products that you've
- 23 implanted, not just the TVT obturator?
- A. Yes, they would include multiple products.
- Q. So, Doctor, the sentence that I just read from

- 1 positive experience with a TVT obturator device?
- A. I don't recall an exact date, no, or time.
- Q. And, Doctor, are these encounters with
- 4 patients in the grocery store part of the information
- 5 you've considered in reaching your opinion that the TVT
- 6 obturator device is safe and effective?
- A. It's part of it. It's not the principal
- 8 source of my information.
- 9 Q. But it's part of it?
- 10 A. It's part of it, yes, uh-huh.
- Q. And, Doctor, do you intend to discuss at trial
- 12 any encounters you've had with patients in the grocery
- 13 store?
- A. Only if it's asked of me. It's not the type
- 15 of information I typically volunteer.
- Q. But do you believe those encounters are
- 17 relevant to your opinion that the TVT-O device is safe
- 18 and effective?
- 19 A. I suppose so, yes, uh-huh.
- Q. And would you like to talk about those
- 21 encounters at trial if you were allowed?
- A. Certainly. I don't know, really. As I said,
- 23 if asked, I will. If I could state one other thing,
- it's not really relevant to whether I consider the TVT-O
- is safe and effective. It's more relevant to the fact

- $\ensuremath{\mathtt{1}}$  that I consider it to have a low morbidity and high
- 2 patient acceptance.
- 3 Q. Okay. Thank you, Doctor.
- 4 Can you explain how safety and low morbidity
- 5 are different concepts? Because I think that's what you
- 6 said in your last answer.
- 7 A. Yeah. Well, safety would apply to
- 8 life-threatening or significantly life-altering events.
- 9 And effectiveness would apply to, you know, the -- how
- 10 well the device worked. In terms of morbidity, there
- 11 are other less tangible factors, such as how quickly one
- 12 can walk around a room, whether one can return to work,
- 13 whether there's, you know, a need to have a catheter
- 14 placed that might prohibit you from going to the grocery
- 15 store yourself, you know, things like that.
- Q. Okay. So, Doctor, are you offering an opinion
- 17 in this case that the TVT-O device is safe and
- 18 effective?
- 19 A. Yes, I am.
- Q. Okay. And, Doctor, are you offering any
- 21 opinions in this case regarding the morbidity associated
- 22 with the TVT obturator device?
- A. Yes, I am.
- Q. Okay. And, Doctor, how do you believe your
- 25 opinions about the morbidity of the TVT obturator device

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  A. Working a certain number of hours a day. I
- 2 would typically set aside one or two hours per day to do
- 3 so over the span of, perhaps, two weeks.
- Q. So what would be your best guess of how many
- 5 hours you spent reviewing these?
  - A. My best guess is maybe 30 hours.
- 7 O. 30 hours?
- 8 A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Okay. And that's just reviewing the
- 10 materials?
- 11 A. Let's say 25 hours just reviewing materials.
- Q. Okay. Doctor, do you have an active practice
- 13 right now?

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- 14 A. I do, yes.
  - Q. Where do you currently work?
- 16 A. In Templeton, California at the Pacific
- 17 Central Coast Health Centers.
- 18 Q. And you work there as a
- 19 obstetrician/gynecologist, correct?
- 20 A. I do.
  - Q. And, Doctor, how long have you been in that
- 22 position?
- A. Almost two years.
- Q. And, Doctor, you said you reviewed all the
- 25 materials on this list, correct?

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- 1 and the safety of the TVT obturator device are
- 2 different?
- A. Well, my opinion is that the TVT device is
- 4 safe and effective. My opinion is that the TVT-O has
- 5 low morbidity. So they're not terribly different.
- 6 Q. Okay.
- A. But it's a bit like comparing apples and
- 8 oranges. It's hard for me to say they are exactly the
- 9 same opinion.
- 10 Q. Okay. Fair enough.
- Doctor, if I could ask you to locate what we
- 12 marked as Exhibit 3, which is the list of -- the
- 13 reliance list.
- Doctor, just generally, have you reviewed
- 15 every document on this list?
- A. I have looked at every document on this list,
- 17 yes.
- Q. Okay. And, Doctor, about how much time did it
- 19 take you to look at every document on this list?
- A. A long time. Several days.
- Q. Several days. When you say "several days," do
- 22 you mean --
- 23 A. I mean --
- Q. -- consecutively or working a certain number
- 25 of hours a day?

- A. Correct.
- 2 Q. And is it fair to say you did not discuss all
- 3 the materials on the list in your report?
  - 4 A. That is fair to say.
- 5 Q. Okay. So how did you go about choosing which

- 6 materials from this list would be discussed in your
- 7 report?
- 8 A. I wanted to rely on the highest quality of
- <sup>9</sup> evidence. So principally I chose from the systematic
- 10 reviews and meta-analyses.
- Q. Doctor, would you consider any published
- 12 peer-reviewed literature that discusses the TVT
- 13 obturator device as relevant to your opinions in this
- 14 case?
- 15 A. Once again, it would depend on the quality of
- 16 the evidence.
- Q. And, Doctor, you read some Ethicon internal
- 18 documents that were provided to you, I assume?
- 19 A. Yes, I did.
- Q. Okay. And how did you determine which ones
- 21 you were going to list in your report? Strike that.
- Doctor, there are a few Ethicon documents
- 23 listed as footnotes in your report, correct?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. How did you decide which of those to include

- 1 in your report from the long list in your reliance
- 2 materials?
- 3 A. If I might take a moment. You're referring to
- 4 the Ethicon documents that I referenced?
- 5 Q. Correct.
- 6 A. It was just if it was relevant to my opinion,
- 7 it was just --
- Q. Well, Doctor, I'll represent to you that there
- 9 are, we'll say, over 100 Ethicon documents on your
- 10 reliance list. And you --
- 11 A. True.
- Q. -- only cited a very small fraction of that in
- 13 your report; is that fair?
- 14 A. That's fair.
- Q. And how did you select just those very few?
- MR. KOOPMANN: Object to the form.
- THE WITNESS: I did not rely much on the
- 18 Ethicon company documents, to be honest, but there were
- 19 a few specific questions that I had addressed relating
- 20 to the type of material used. And the only information
- 21 that I could find relevant to that was in the Ethicon
- 22 company documents.
- 23 BY MR. JACKSON:
- Q. Okay. Doctor, how did you become involved in
- 25 this case in the fall of 2015?

- 1 A. Yes, that's fair to say. If I may elaborate.
  - 2 Reviewing some of the more recent meta-analyses further

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- 3 reinforced that opinion.
- Q. So, Doctor, since you began work in this case,
- 5 have you done any research independently to determine
- 6 whether your initial view that the TVT-O device was safe
- 7 and effective was correct?
- 8 A. Yes, I looked up -- up to date, I reviewed the
- 9 recent physician statements by my professional
- 10 societies.
- 11 Q. Doctor, what professional societies are you a
- 12 member of?

18

- A. American College of OB-GYN, the American
- 14 Urogynecologic Society.
- Q. Doctor, is the American Urogynecologic Society
- 16 also known as AUGS?
- 17 A. Yes. AMA.
  - Q. Doctor, how did you go about deciding what
- 19 information to include in your report in this case?
- 20 A. I formulated my opinions. And I looked
- 21 through some of the documents provided to me. And I did
- 22 a literature search on my own, and looked to see what
- 23 seemed to reasonably support my -- the opinions that I
- 24 have stated.
- Q. So is it fair to say you had your opinions

- 1 A. I was contacted by Mr. Koopmann.
- 2 Q. And at the time you were contacted by
- <sup>3</sup> Mr. Koopmann in the fall of 2015, did you believe that
- 4 the TVT-O device was safe and effective?
- 5 A. Yes, I did.
- 6 Q. And at the time you were first contacted by
- <sup>7</sup> Mr. Koopmann, did he explain that he wanted you to
- 8 provide a report stating that the TVT-O device was safe
- 9 and effective?
- MR. KOOPMANN: I object to the form of the
- 11 question. I think that calls for communications between
- 12 myself and the witness which is privileged under the
- 13 rules. So I'm going to instruct the witness not to
- 14 answer.
- 15 BY MR. JACKSON:
- Q. Okay. I can ask a better question. Doctor,
- 17 at the time -- strike that.
- Doctor, is it fair to say that no matter --
- 19 Doctor, you said in the fall of 2015, when you were
- 20 first contacted in this case, you held the opinion that
- 21 the TVT-O device was safe and effective; is that
- 22 correct?
- A. That is correct.
- Q. And is it fair to say you didn't see or learn
- 25 anything that changed your mind?

- 1 first and then you filled in the report with support for
- 2 those opinions?
- 3 MR. KOOPMANN: Object to form.
- THE WITNESS: Having been in practice for
- 5 20 years and gone to medical school and residency as I
- 6 have had the opportunity to form some opinions, those
- 7 opinions would have been subject to change had I found
- 8 contrary information. But, yes, I did have some
- <sup>9</sup> opinions before I started the report.
- 10 BY MR. JACKSON:
- Q. Doctor, you discussed the instructions for
- 12 use, or IFU, for the TVT obturator in your report,
- 13 correct?
- 14 A. Correct.
- Q. How did you determine to discuss the TVT
- 16 obturator IFU in your report?
- 17 A. Well, it has been a subject of question, I
- 18 think, in prior litigation so I thought it might be
- 19 relevant.
- Q. Okay. And, Doctor, you discuss the background
- 21 of the TVT retropubic and the TVT obturator in your
- 22 report --
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. -- correct?
- 25 And you also discuss literature surrounding

1 both those devices in your report?

- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Doctor, you discuss the IFU for the TVT
- 4 obturator in your report?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And, Doctor, you also discuss Ethicon's
- training programs in your report?
- A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And you discuss Ethicon's product brochures in
- 10 your report, correct?
- 11 A. Yes, uh-huh.
- 12 Q. Okay. And are there any other sections in
- 13 your report that I didn't just list?
- A. Everything is listed here. There may be 14
- 15 something that you haven't mentioned.
- 16 Q. Okay. Well, how did you decide to include
- 17 those sections and not other sections?
- A. Well, I had a general outline that I felt
- 19 would be relevant, and then additional material in
- 20 discussion with counsel to see what might be relevant.
- 21 Q. Okay. And how did you come up with that
- 22 initial general outline?
- 23 A. I asked counsel some questions. I asked some
- 24 of my colleagues what generally goes in a expert report.
- 25 Q. Okay.

- Page 51
- A. Not relevant to this particular case, but... 1
- Q. Okay. And, Doctor, if I can ask you to turn
- <sup>3</sup> back to Exhibit 3, the reliance list.
- A. Uh-huh.
- Q. And I took the liberty of tabbing a page to
- 6 streamline things. If I could ask you to turn to that
- 7 tabbed page.
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. I had a few questions about some of the things
- 10 on this page.
- 11 A. Okay.
- 12 Q. Doctor, do you see just about halfway down the
- page it says, "FDA 24-Hour Summary"?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Do you know what document that refers to?
- A. I would have to look in the binder. No, I
- 17 don't remember.
- 18 Q. Okay.
- 19 A. Can I?
- 20 Q. Well, not right now.
- 21 A. Okay.
- Q. Let me ask, is it your understanding that 22
- 23 there's a document labeled in one of the binders called
- 24 FDA 24-Hour Summary?
- 25 A. That would be my understanding.

- Q. Okay.
- A. Uh-huh.
- Q. But sitting here, you're not sure what
- 4 document this refers to?
- A. No, I'm not.
- Q. Okay. And, Doctor, a little further down it
- says, "FDA Executive Summary." Do you know specifically
- what document that refers to?
- A. I do not.
- Q. Okay. And, Doctor, the last item on the page
- 11 says "FDA Stress Urinary Incontinence." Do you know
- 12 what document that refers to?
- 13 A. I'm not certain, but I want to think that's
- the document stating that the mid-urethral sling is an
- acceptable treatment for stress urinary incontinence.
- 16 Q. So, Doctor, it's your testimony that FDA
- stress urinary incontinence is an FDA document saying
- that mid-urethral slings are safe and effective?
- 19 A. I had best look at it before I testify that's
- 20 definitely. May I take the time to find it?
- 21 Q. Why don't we do that on a break. Why don't we
- 22 see if we can locate that document.
- 23 A. All right.
  - Q. I'll admit from my side looking at a document
- 25 that just says FDA stress urinary incontinence, it's
  - Page 53

- 1 very difficult to know what that document refers to; is
- 2 that fair?
- A. That's fair.
- Q. And, Doctor, the -- about half the documents
- 5 on this page start with the term "FDA"; is that correct?
- A. That is correct.
- Q. Okay. And how did you determine which FDA
- documents to include in this reliance list?
- A. Those were provided to me by counsel.
- Q. Okay. And, Doctor, what significance, if any,
- 11 do these FDA documents have in your opinions in this
- 12 case?
- 13 MR. KOOPMANN: Object to the form.
- THE WITNESS: Well, the specific document that
- 15 is most relevant, it was their press release stating
- that mid-urethral slings are safe and effective.
- BY MR. JACKSON:
- 18 Q. And why is that the most significant?
- 19 A. Because that's my understanding of my expert
- 20 opinion is that the TVT-O is safe and effective, and the
- 21 FDA agrees with me.
- 22 Q. Doctor, do you believe that -- sorry. Strike
- 23 that.
- 24 Doctor, do you believe that any statements the
- 25 FDA has made supporting the safety and efficacy of the

- 1 TVT obturator device, do you, in fact, support the
- 2 safety and efficacy of the TVT obturator device?
- 3 (Reporter clarification.)
- 4 Q. Doctor, do you believe that statements made by
- 5 the FDA supporting the safety and efficacy of the TVT
- 6 obturator device do, in fact, support the safety and
- efficacy of the TVT obturator device?
- MR. KOOPMANN: Object to the form.
- 9 THE WITNESS: They do support the safety. But
- 10 the actual safety and effectiveness is -- my opinion is
- 11 derived from review of the literature more so than an
- 12 FDA statement.
- 13 BY MR. JACKSON:
- 14 Q. Okay. Doctor, did you consider any statements
- 15 made by the FDA in forming your opinion in this case?
- 16 A. Well, yes, it's considered. It's on my
- 17 reliance list, and I believe it supports it, yes.
- Q. Doctor, do you believe any statements made by
- 19 the FDA concerning the safety of the TVT obturator
- device provide significant support for your opinions in
- 21 this case?
- 22 MR. KOOPMANN: I'll object to the form.
- 23 THE WITNESS: It was not my principal source
- 24 for forming my opinion, so it's hard for me to define
- significant. I -- it was part of my opinion, but of

- Page 56
- Q. Doctor, why do you discuss the TVT retropubic
- <sup>2</sup> device in your TVT obturator report?
- A. Because the TVT retropubic and the TVT
- 4 obturator, I generally feel, they're modifications of a
- <sup>5</sup> similar technique.
- Q. Doctor, how are the TVT retropubic device and
- the TVT obturator device different?
- A. They employ a different mode of delivery, so
- 9 they -- the device is implanted in a different direction
- 10 in the body.
- 11 Q. Is it fair to say they have a different
- 12 surgical technique?
- 13 A. Yes, they do have a different surgical
- 14 technique, yes.

15

- Q. Doctor, do you intend to opine at trial that
- <sup>16</sup> mid-urethral slings are the gold standard for SUI
- surgical treatment?
- 18 A. I do, yes.
- 19 Q. Okay. And what is that based on?
- 20 A. The overwhelming body of evidence stating
- their effectiveness, and their common use by urologists
- and gynecologists for the treatment of stress urinary
- incontinence. It is the principally performed
- procedure.
- 25 Q. Okay. And, Doctor, do you intend to opine at

1 trial that the TVT obturator device is the gold standard

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- 1 minimal significance.
- 2 BY MR. JACKSON:
- Q. And, Doctor, just generally in regards to the
- 4 drafting of your report in this case, was it something
- 5 where you sat down and wrote all 19 pages at once or did
- 6 you sort of work as you went along?
- 7 A. I worked as I went along.
  - Q. Okay. And, Doctor, were you -- strike that.
- 9 Doctor, did you sort of go section by section
- 10 or just sort of -- how did you go about drafting your
- 11 report?

- 12 A. Yes. I started with the introduction and then
- 13 I worked section by section. But I might have done a
- 14 few sections on the same day.
- 15 Q. And, Doctor, are there any opinions you intend
- 16 to offer at trial about the TVT obturator device that
- 17 are not contained in this report?
- 18 A. No. My opinions are in this report.
- 19 Q. Doctor, do you intend to offer any opinions at
- 20 trial about the TVT retropubic device?
- Q. Okay. Doctor, would you agree with me that 22
- 23 you spend several pages in this report discussing the
- 24 TVT retropubic device?
- 25 A. I agree, yes.

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- <sup>2</sup> for SUI surgical treatment?
- A. Only insofar as it is part of the class of
- 4 mid-urethral slings.
- Q. Doctor, is it fair to say you can't point to
- 6 any specific documents that refer to the TVT obturator
- as the gold standard for SUI treatment?
- A. May I take one moment? I think most of my
- articles point to mid-urethral slings in general as
- being the gold standard, but there may be one that
- 11 states the TVT-O.
- 12 Q. If you don't mind, maybe you can look for that
- 13 over a break --
- A. All right.
- 15 Q. -- and you can come back to that.
- 16 Doctor, why don't we say if you come across an
- article that specifically refers to the TVT obturator as
- the gold standard for SUI treatment, you'll make sure to
- let me know while we're on the record today; is that
- 20 fair?
- 21 A. That's fair.
- 22 Q. Okay. Doctor, if I could ask you to turn to
- 23 page 6 of your report.
- Doctor, I'm just looking at the last sentence 24
- 25 on this page that says, "The TVT was introduced in the

| Page 58  1 U.S. in 1998, and soon became the gold standard for SUI 2 surgical treatment."  3 Did I read that correctly?  4 A. Yes, you did.  1 A. Yes, uh-huh. 2 Q. Doctor, have you designed any many many many many many many many   | Page 60              |
|--|----------------------|
| 2 surgical treatment." 2 Q. Doctor, have you designed any m 3 Did I read that correctly? 3 for SUI repair that have been commerciand 4 A. Yes, you did. 4 to use?  | nedical devices      |
| 3 Did I read that correctly? 4 A. Yes, you did. 3 for SUI repair that have been commercial 4 to use?   |                      |
| 4 A. Yes, you did. 4 to use?   |                      |
|  | anzea for outers     |
| 5 Q. And in this sentence when you say "TVT," are 5 A. Not that I have brought to the con  | mmercial             |
| 6 you just referring to the TVT retropubic non-Exact 6 production, no.   | innereiai            |
| 7 product? 7 Q. And, Doctor, have you ever design  | anad a               |
| 8 A. Yes. 8 polypropylene mesh device of any kind?   |                      |
|  |                      |
|  |                      |
|  | it, no, i nave       |
| 11 incontinence? 11 not originally designed one, no.   | . 4 :.               |
| A. One cannot assign a specific date to that.  12 Q. Okay. Doctor, the TVT obturato  |                      |
| Q. Doctor you say here, "It soon became the gold 13 inserted through something called the inserted through s | side-out             |
| 14 standard after it was introduced in 1998." Can you give 14 approach; is that correct?   |                      |
| 15 us an idea of what you mean by "soon" here?   | 1.1 1                |
| 16 A. Oh, 2004.  |                      |
| Q. So, Doctor, it's your testimony that in 2004 17 inside-out surgical technique is preferable   | le to other          |
| the TVT retropubic was the gold standard for SUI 18 transobturator techniques?   |                      |
| 19 treatment? 19 A. I would intend to opine at trial it  |                      |
| 20 A. It's my testimony that the mid-urethral 20 preferable in my hands to other techniqu  |                      |
| 21 polypropylene sling became the gold standard in 21 general statement I would not opine that   |                      |
| 22 approximately 2004. 22 MR. JACKSON: Okay. We have   |                      |
| 23 Q. Doctor, what is your definition of gold 23 little over an hour. Why don't we take a  | break.               |
| 24 standard? 24 MR. KOOPMANN: Sure.  |                      |
| 25 A. The procedure to which all others should be 25 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: This ma   | arks the end of Disk |
| Page 59  | Page 61              |
| 1 measured. 1 1, Volume I, videotaped deposition of I  | Or. Mareeni          |
| 2 Q. And, Doctor, do you intend to opine at trial 2 Stanislaus. The time on the monitor the  | e 2:23 p.m.          |
| 3 that the design of the TVT obturator device makes it 3 We are now off the record.  |                      |
| 4 safe and effective? 4 (Recess.)  |                      |
| 5 A. Yes. 5 (Exhibit 6-A was marked for  | or                   |
| 6 Q. Okay. And, Doctor, do you have any experience 6 identification and attached   | hereto.)             |
| 7 designing a medical device yourself? 7 (Exhibit 6-B was marked for   | or                   |
| 8 A. Yes. 8 identification and attached  | hereto.)             |
| 9 Q. And what experience is that? 9 (Exhibit 6-C was marked for  | or                   |
| A. Consulting with engineers on development of a 10 identification and attached  | hereto.)             |
| 11 product for a postpartum hemorrhage, and offering my   11 (Exhibit 6-D was marked for   | or                   |
| 12 opinions through surgeries, feedback to companies in the 12 identification and attached   | hereto.)             |
| 13 use of their products in the human body. 13 (Exhibit 6-E was marked for   | or                   |
| Q. Okay. And, Doctor, do you have any experience 14 identification and attached  |                      |
| designing a medical device for SUI treatment? 15 (Exhibit 6-F was marked for   | or                   |
| A. Insofar that I offered feedback, yes. I have identification and attached  | hereto.)             |
| 17 not tried to design a device for commercial use. But in 17 (Exhibit 6-G was marked for  | · ·                  |
| my practice performing incontinence surgeries, there la identification and attached  |                      |
| 19 have been times where I've had to modify present 19 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are  |                      |
| 20 instruments. So, yes, I've designed things to help me 20 This marks the beginning of Disk 2, Vo   |                      |
| 21 in my surgeries. 21 videotaped deposition of Dr. Mareeni S  |                      |
| Q. Doctor, just so I'm clear, when you say you've 22 time on the monitor is 2:36 p.m. We're  |                      |
| 23 designed things to help you in your surgeries, do you 23 record.  |                      |
| 24 just mean you've made modifications to devices for you  24 MR. JACKSON: While we were   | off the record we    |
| 25 to use yourself? 25 marked as Exhibit 6-A through 6-G bin   |                      |
| 15 255 yourself.   |                      |

- 1 Dr. Stanislaus brought with her.
- 2 6-A is titled "SUI Mesh Documents, Binder 1."
- 3 6-B is titled "TVT Company Documents." 6-C is titled
- 4 "TVT-O Company Documents." 6-D is titled "TVT Medical
- 5 Literature." 6-E is titled "TVT Company/FDA Documents."
- 6 6-F is titled "SUI Mesh Documents, Binder 2." And 6-G
- 7 is titled "TVT literature and Position Statements."
- 8 O. Dr. Stanislaus, have you been able to locate
- 9 anything indicating what the TVT stress urinary
- 10 incontinence document in the reliance list may be?
- 11 A. I'm sorry. Which one were you referring to?
- Q. I'm on the tabbed page, the reliance list.
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. The last document is entitled "FDA Stress
- 15 Urinary Incontinence." Have you yet been able to
- 16 determine what that document refers to?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. Okay. Thank you.
- Doctor, would you agree with me that it's
- 20 appropriate for a physician who is going to implant the
- 21 TVT-O device to have read the instructions for use prior
- 22 to implanting the device?
- A. At some point, yes, the instructions for use.
- Q. It doesn't need to be right before they
- 25 implant it.

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  - 2 for use for the TVT obturator is an important document?

Q. Okay. Doctor, do you believe the instructions

- 3 MR. KOOPMANN: Object to the form.
- 4 THE WITNESS: Important is a very subjective
- 5 thing, but yes. I mean, it's an important document,
- 6 sure
- 7 BY MR. JACKSON:
- Q. Doctor, in your practice as someone who
- 9 implants the TVT obturator device, do you consider the
- 10 TVT-O IFU an important tool in learning about risks?
- 11 A. No.

15

- Q. Okay. So, Doctor, why did you discuss the
- 13 TVT-O IFU in your report?
- MR. KOOPMANN: Object to the form.
  - THE WITNESS: Because it was my understanding
- 16 that Plaintiffs' experts may refer to the IFU. I
- 17 thought it would be an important thing to discuss.
- 18 BY MR. JACKSON:
- Q. But, Doctor, you don't independently think
- 20 it's an important thing to discuss?
- MR. KOOPMANN: Object to the form.
- 22 THE WITNESS: Sorry. To discuss in what
- 23 context?
- 24 BY MR. JACKSON:
- Q. Doctor, do you believe the instructions for

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- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. But would you agree they would need to have
- 3 read it prior to implanting the device?
- 4 A. Yes
- 5 Q. And, Doctor, have you personally read the
- 6 TVT-O instructions for use prior to implanting the
- 7 device?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And, Doctor, is it appropriate for a physician
- 10 to rely on those TVT-O instructions for use to provide a
- 11 list of known risks associated with the TVT-O device?
- 12 A. No, it is not appropriate.
- Q. And why not?
- 14 A. Because surgeons should rely on their training
- 15 to know how to perform a procedure, their training being
- 16 their training in medical school, residency, and in
- 17 practice. They should also rely on discussions with
- 18 their colleagues and on literature reports to really
- 19 determine the way to perform a procedure.
- Q. Okay. Doctor, would you agree with me that
- 21 the TVT-O IFU is one of many pieces of information a
- 22 physician should consider to determine the risks of the
- 23 TVT-O device?
- A. It is one of many, but it really should not be
- 25 the place you look for risks of a device.

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1 use for the TVT obturator is relevant to assessing the

- <sup>2</sup> safety of the TVT obturator?
- 3 A. No, I don't actually believe that.
- 4 Q. Okay. And, Doctor, is it your testimony that
- 5 you only included a section on the TVT-O instructions
- 6 for use in your report because you said you think
- 7 Plaintiffs' experts think it's important?
- 8 A. Yes, that is why. And I -- yes, that is why.
- 9 Q. Okay.

10

- A. Uh-huh.
- O. Doctor, what opinions do you intend to offer
- 12 at trial about the TVT-O instructions for use?
  - A. What I've outlined in my report.
- Q. And, generally, what is your opinion with
- 15 regard to the TVT-O IFU in this case?
  - A. Well, that it's a document that's explains
- what the device is and how it's to be used.
- Q. Do you hold an opinion in this case that the
- <sup>9</sup> TVT-O IFU is sufficient with regard to the information
- 20 that it provides about the TVT-O device?
- A. Yes. It's an instructions for use document,
- 22 and it provides sufficient information on how to use it.
- Q. Doctor, do you believe it's a company's
- <sup>24</sup> response -- strike that.
- Doctor, do you believe it's Ethicon's

- 1 responsibility to provide -- strike that.
- 2 Doctor, do you believe it's Ethicon's
- 3 responsibility to warn of the risks associated with the
- 4 TVT-O device?
- 5 A. It is -- well, anyone that knows of a risk of
- 6 a device has an ethical responsibility to report risks;
- 7 so, in that sense, yes. But I would suggest that they
- 8 would need to limit it to risks that are specific to the
- 9 device that they're making.
- Q. Okay. Doctor, would you -- would you agree
- 11 with me that synthetic mesh carries additional risks
- 12 that are not present in other SUI treatments?
- 13 A. Yes, there are different risks.
- Q. But the risks that come with polypropylene
- 15 mesh surgery that are not associated with autologous
- 16 fascial slings, for example.
- 17 A. Yes.
- Q. What are some of those risks?
- A. Exposure of the polypropylene material.
- 20 That's the principal one.
- Q. Okay. And, Doctor, would you agree that
- 22 polypropylene mesh because it's a synthetic material can
- 23 cause a foreign body response?
- A. Yes, any synthetic material will cause a
- 25 foreign body response as it is a foreign body.

- 1 postoperative pain?
- A. Transient pain is a pain of short duration
- 3 and, yes, that would typically be immediately related in

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- 4 time to the surgery. So postoperatively, yes.
- Q. Is it fair to say that transient pain resolves
- 6 and chronic pain continues for at least longer than
- 7 three months?
  - A. Correct. Yes, that would be fair to say.
- Q. And, Doctor, would you -- would you agree with
- me that other physicians in your field would have a very
- 11 similar definition of chronic versus transient pain?
- 12 A. I imagine so. I haven't discussed it
- 13 specifically, but I imagine so, yes.
- Q. Okay. Doctor, is there a significant
- difference between chronic postoperative pain that may
- 16 last longer than three months and transient postsurgical
- 17 pain?
- 18 A. Well, I mean by definition they're different
- 19 in length of time. So, yes, there's a difference and
- 20 it's significant, sure.
- Q. Okay. Doctor, you cite a lot of literature in
- 22 your report, correct?
- 23 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. And, just generally, in your report do you
- 25 cite any literature that tracks chronic long-term pain

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- Q. Doctor, just a minute ago you mentioned
- 2 polypropylene -- I'm sorry, Doctor, you mentioned just a
- 3 minute ago mesh exposure, correct?
- 4 A. Yes
- 5 Q. And is your understanding that mesh exposure
- 6 and mesh erosion are two different concepts?
- A. I do use them differently for the most part.
- 8 Q. Okay -- I'm sorry.
- 9 What's the difference in your understanding?
- 10 A. Exposure is visibility of the mesh externally.
- 11 So exposure through the vaginal mucosa. And erosion I
- 12 generally consider it to be eroding into an internal
- 13 organ, so -- such as the bladder or the urethra.
- Q. Okay. Doctor, do you believe that the
- 15 implantation of the TVT device can cause chronic
- 16 inflammation?
- A. It's a, generally, a very rare event but
- 18 chronic inflammation can occur, yes.
- Q. Doctor, do you -- strike that.
- 20 Doctor, what's the difference between chronic
- 21 pain and transient pain following a surgery in your
- 22 practice?

25

- A. Oh, in my practice? Chronic pain would be
- 24 pain that lasted beyond three months postoperatively.
  - Q. Okay. And is transient pain just normal

- 1 following the TVT obturator?
- A. I do believe the meta-analysis discuss pain
- 3 outside the postop period, yes, so I do, uh-huh.
- Q. Can you name a study, for example, that you
- 5 believe tracks chronic long-term pain after the TVT-O
- 6 device?
- A. The Ford study and the Cochrane review.
- 8 (Reporter clarification.)
- 9 A. The Ford study and the Cochrane review. The
- 10 Angioli study as well.
- O. Doctor, is there a randomized clinical trial
- 12 anywhere that has patient safety as a primary endpoint?
  - A. Yes.

- Q. Can you give me an example of the study?
- 15 A. The Angioli study.
- Q. And patient safety is a primary endpoint in
- 17 the Angioli study?
- A. Yes, it was one of the primary endpoints,
- 19 uh-huh.
- Q. Doctor, are there studies that track
- 21 dyspareunia, or painful sexual intercourse, as a primary
- 22 endpoint?
- A. I really would have to review my reliance
- 24 list. I don't remember the specifics of the exact
- primary endpoints of all these studies. I think

- <sup>1</sup> dyspareunia would be lumped into pain. So insofar as it
- was lumped in, yes, there are studies.
   Q. Are you aware of any studies that specifically
- 4 look at pain with intercourse or you think they'd just
- 5 all be lumped in with pain generally?
- 6 A. I -- let me rephrase it. I do think there is
- 7 a couple in here that specifically refer to dyspareunia,8 yes.
- 9 Q. And can you name any of those studies here?
- 10 A. It would take me a moment to look through. So
- $11\,\,$  no. If you give me a moment, I will look through and
- 12 show you.
- 13 Q. Sure.
- 14 (Pause while witness peruses documents.)
- 15 A. Specific to dyspareunia?
- Q. Doctor, I tell you what, is that something we
- 17 can come back to and you can maybe check on a break?
- 18 Would that be okay?
- 19 A. Yes, that would be okay.
- Q. Doctor, would you agree with me that one or
- 21 more revision surgeries may be necessary to treat
- 22 adverse reactions after a TVT-O implant?
- A. Yes, revision surgery is sometimes necessary.
- Q. And sometimes that can be more than one
- 25 revision surgery?

- it 1 studies?
  - A. No, not -- no, that is not my testimony. I am

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- 3 sure there are some studies that show a higher than
- 4 3 percent rate. But I believe the higher quality
- 5 studies show approximately 3 percent or less rate.
- 6 Q. Doctor, do you believe that the entire TVT
- 7 obturator can be removed after it's ingrown into a
- 8 woman's tissues?
- A. I -- I believe that would be exceedingly
- 10 difficult. I suppose it's possible --
- 11 Q. Okay.
- 12 A. -- but not worth doing so.
- Q. Is it fair to say it might require aggressive
- 14 dissection to get an entire TVT obturator out after its
- been ingrown?
- A. It would be fair to say that there is no
- 17 reason to ever aggressively dissect and remove an entire
- 18 TVT-O. But if that was one's desire, yes, it would
- <sup>19</sup> require extensive dissection.
- Q. Doctor, have you personally performed surgery
- 21 to take TVT device -- I'm sorry. Strike that.
- Doctor, have you personally performed revision
- 23 procedures on TVT obturator devices?
- A. Yes, I have.
- Q. And about how many revision procedures have

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- A. Incredibly rarely. I mean, TVT-O has the
- 2 lowest risk of requiring revision surgery of any
- 3 incontinence procedure. But, yes, it can --
  - Q. And what's --
- 5 A. -- be done more than once.
- 6 Q. I'm sorry.
- And, Doctor, what's your basis for saying that
- 8 TVT-O has the lowest rate of complications?
- 9 A. The Cochrane review suggested a -- that a less
- 10 than 3 percent risk of exposure --
- 11 Q. Okay.
- 12 A. -- and a low rate of urinary retention. My
- 13 clinical experience between the retropubic and the
- 14 obturator is there's less retention with the obturator.
- 15 But, yes, there's literature showing that it's got a
- <sup>16</sup> very, very low complication rate and reoperation rate.
- Q. Okay. And, Doctor, are you aware of any
- 18 literature showing that the TVT-O has higher rates of
- 19 complications than the 3 percent erosion rate you just
- 20 mentioned?
- A. Oh, yes, there are studies. But, you know, I
- 22 tried to look at the high-quality studies.
- Q. Okay. Doctor, is it your testimony that
- 24 studies that show a higher than 3 percent rate of
- 25 complications with the TVT-O are not high-quality

- 1 you performed on TVT obturator devices?
- A. Specific to the TVT-O, I don't remember
- 3 exactly. Not very many. Perhaps two or three.
- Q. And, Doctor, were those two or three instances
- 5 something where you were just trimming the mesh or were
- 6 they a more advanced removal procedure?
- A. Again, one would have to define advanced
- 8 removal. One of them was trimming the mesh. One of
- 9 them involved some dissection to remove most of the
- 10 visible -- sorry -- most of the mesh up to a distance of
- 11 a couple of centimeters either way. So I suppose that's
- 12 extensive, uh-huh.
- Q. And, Doctor, have you ever removed a TVT
- 14 obturator in its entirety?
- 15 A. No, I have not.
  - Q. Do you know anyone who ever has?
- 17 A. No, I do not.

16

- Q. Doctor, the way to manage complications with a
- 19 TVT-O device is typically to remove a portion of the
- 20 mesh; is that correct?
- 21 MR. KOOPMANN: Object to form.
- THE WITNESS: Not necessarily, no. It depends
- 23 on what the complication is.
- 24 BY MR. JACKSON:
  - Q. Okay. Doctor, if a patient has a mesh erosion

- 1 or an exposure of the TVT-O device, is a way to manage
- 2 that complication to typically remove part of the
- 3 device?
- 4 A. The first treatment you would use would be
- 5 estrogen cream to promote vaginal healing and
- 6 epithelialization. But if that is not effective,
- 7 certainly portions of the mesh can be removed.
- 8 Typically, though, that can just be done in the office.
- Q. Okay. And if a physician is removing a
- 10 portion of a TVT-O device, the physician has to make a
- 11 judgment call about how much of the device to remove,
- 12 correct?
- A. Every time a surgeon enters the operating room
- 14 we make multiple extensive judgment calls with every
- 15 step we make, with every cut we -- we perform. So, yes,
- 16 absolutely.
- Q. Okay. So you'd certainly agree that the
- 18 amount of mesh that a surgeon was removing is a judgment
- 19 call?
- A. Well, yes, as well as is the decision to
- 21 perform incontinence surgery in the first place, yeah,
- 22 sure.
- Q. And if a doctor decides to only remove a small
- 24 portion of a mesh, you're certainly not here to fault a
- 25 doctor for choosing how much mesh to remove, correct?

- anage 1 sent to pathology. I didn't send it away for any
  - 2 specific testing, if that's what you mean.
  - Q. Okay. Are you aware of whether those
  - 4 specimens were sent to pathology or are you just
  - 5 guessing?
  - A. Specimens are always sent to pathology, so

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- 7 they would have been, yeah, uh-huh.
- 8 Q. And would you have reviewed those pathology
- 9 reports?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Do you remember anything specific about those
- 12 pathology reports?
- 13 A. They were unremarkable, so, no, I do not.
- Q. Doctor, are you aware of underreporting of
  - adverse events in your profession?
- MR. KOOPMANN: Object to form.
- THE WITNESS: Adverse events occur every day.
- 18 Not everything is reported.
- 19 BY MR. JACKSON:
- 20 Q. Doctor, have you ever tested a TVT obturator
- 21 mesh for degradation?
- A. Yes, I've looked at it. I've seen it when
- 23 I've had to go in on repeat procedures, sure. It seems
- 24 to be very well intact when I've seen it in human
- bodies, sure.

- 1 MR. KOOPMANN: Object to form.
- 2 THE WITNESS: That's -- it seems a rather
- 3 hypothetical situation, but I don't think I was asked to
- 4 fault a physician for any of their specific decisions,
- 5 no.
- 6 BY MR. JACKSON:
- Q. Okay. And, Doctor, do you specifically treat
- 8 patients for chronic pain following TVT obturator
- 9 surgery?
- 10 A. Well, I have not had any patients with chronic
- 11 pain in -- following TVT obturator surgery in my
- 12 practice. Would I be willing to treat them? Certainly.
- Q. Okay. And, Doctor, you mentioned that on two
- 14 or three occasions you have performed revision
- procedures of TVT obturators; is that correct?
- 16 A. Yes, that is correct.
- Q. And are those revision procedures something
- 18 you report to the FDA as adverse events?
- 19 A. No, I did not report those.
- Q. And, Doctor, on the two or three TVT-O
- 21 revision procedures you've performed, did you perform
- 22 any tests on the mesh that was removed?
- A. I did not, no. Well, other than, you know,
- 24 looking at it visually. Certainly I had to look at
- 25 everything. It was -- I imagine that the specimen was

- Q. And that's just based on your visual
- <sup>2</sup> inspection without any instruments; is that correct?
- A. My visual inspection, my palpation, and, of
- 4 course, you know, its -- its effectiveness in the body
- 5 over long-term.
- 6 I mean, I have patients now that I have been
- <sup>7</sup> seeing since 2002, and their meshes are still in place.
- 8 So presume they are still there working without
- 9 degradation.
- Q. And, Doctor, when you say you've tested a
- 11 TVT-O device for degradation, your concept for testing
- 12 there is you visually inspected it and not seen any
- 13 degradation, and the device is still working in the body
- 14 so there must not have been any degradation; is that
- 15 correct?
- 16 A. Yes, it would be -- my personal testing of it
- would be a clinical evaluation of the product over time,
- 18 yes
- Q. Do you believe there's a clinical significance to degradation?
- A. I don't really believe that it's occurring.
- 22 But if it were occurring, the clinical significance
- 23 would be the procedure would no longer work.
- Q. And so because the procedure's still working
- 25 there must not have been any degradation; is that

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- 1 correct?
- 2 A. That's correct, yes.
- Q. Okay. Doctor, are you familiar with the
- 4 chemical process of oxidative degradation, whether you
- 5 agree with it or not?
- 6 A. I'm sure, uh-huh, yes.
- 7 Q. And, Doctor, have you ever looked at
- 8 polypropylene mesh under a microscope?
- 9 A. No, I have not. I've seen pictures of it
- 10 described, but, no, I haven't personally.
- Q. Doctor, have you ever asked a pathologist
- 12 about polypropylene degradation?
- A. No. I speak with pathologists all the time,
- 14 but that hasn't really been a question that I would
- 15 think to ask. Because the times I've removed
- 16 polypropylene, it looks perfectly intact and undegraded.
- 17 So, no, I have not specifically asked that question, no.
- 18 Q. Doctor, are you aware of published
- 19 peer-reviewed scientific literature that suggests that
- 20 polypropylene mesh degrades in the body by oxidative
- 21 degradation?
- A. Yes, I am aware of literature that states that
- 23 polypropylene degrades.
- Q. And you've never -- is it fair to say you've
- 25 never asked a pathologist whether the polypropylene mesh

- 1 without the antioxidants so I don't know.
- Q. Okay. Doctor, have you ever performed any
- 3 independent studies to determine whether polypropylene
- 4 degrades?
- 5 A. As I said, I've, you know, looked at the
- 6 material as I've used it, seen it in the body over time,
- 7 but I haven't published any papers, no.
- 8 MR. JACKSON: If we could mark this Exhibit 8,
- 9 please.
- 10 (Exhibit 8 was marked for
- identification and attached hereto.)
- 12 BY MR. JACKSON:
- Q. Doctor, I'm going to represent to you that
- 14 this is a version of the instructions for use for the
- 15 TVT obturator. It says "2003" on the bottom of the
- 16 first page.
- 17 A. Yes, it does.
- Q. I believe this version was in effect from 2003
- 19 to 2004. This one is on your reliance list, I'll tell
- 20 you that.
- Doctor, if I could ask you to turn to the page
- 22 of this document that says 5 in the middle of the
- 23 bottom
- 24 A. Okay.
  - Q. And the number stamped at the bottom

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- 1 does, in fact, degrade inside the body?
- A. As I said, I had no reason to ask a
- 3 pathologist that question. I'm aware of literature that
- 4 states that it degrades, but I'm also aware of
- 5 literature that states that it does not degrade. It
- 6 wasn't really clinically relevant to me to ask a
- 7 pathologist whether it's degrading.
- 8 Q. Okay. Doctor, do you know what type of
- 9 polypropylene is in the Ethicon SUI products?
- 10 A. Polypropylene. I think there's only one type.
- 11 Q. Okay. It's the same?
- 12 A. Right.
- Q. And do you know who manufactures the actual
- 14 polypropylene? Not the mesh, the actual polypropylene.
- A. And, once again, that wasn't particularly
- 16 clinical relevant to me. I did see somewhere in these
- 17 documents that it may have been manufactured by Sinoco.
- 18 But, again, I couldn't tell you with 100 percent
- 19 certainty that that's where it came from.
- Q. And, Doctor, do you know whether there are
- 21 antioxidants added to Ethicon's propylene?
- A. Oh, yes, there are, uh-huh.
- Q. And do you know whether pure polypropylene
- 24 without antioxidants can degrade?
- A. Gosh, I haven't ever used pure polypropylene

- Page 81 1 right-hand corner ends in 0834. Are you on that page?
- 2 A. Yes, I am.
- Q. Okay. Doctor, do you see the section in the
- 4 middle that says "Contraindications"?
- 5 A. Yes, I do.
- 6 Q. And it says, "As with any suspension surgery,
- 7 this procedure should not be performed on pregnant
- 8 patients. Additionally, because polypropylene mesh will
- 9 not stretch significantly, it should not be performed in
- 10 patients with future growth potential, including women
- 11 with plans for future pregnancy."
- Did I read that correctly?
- 13 A. Yes, you did.
- Q. Doctor, would you agree with me that this
- 15 version of the instructions for use doesn't say, for
- 16 example, that the TVT-O should not be used in obese
- 17 women?

20

25

- A. No, it does not say it should not be used.
- Q. It doesn't say it should not be used in women
- A. Why would it say that? But, yes, no, it
- 22 doesn't say that.

who smoke?

- Q. And it doesn't say it should not be used in
- 24 women with weak connective tissue?
  - A. Wouldn't that be terrible if we couldn't use

- ${\tt 1}\;$  it in any of those women. They'd walk around leaking
- 2 urine all over the place. But, no, it does not say
- 3 that.
- 4 Q. Doctor, is it fair to assume that Ethicon
- 5 would have known that a certain -- a certain proportion
- 6 of the women implanted with the device would be obese?
- 7 MR. KOOPMANN: Object to form.
- 8 THE WITNESS: Well, insofar as the majority of
- 9 the U.S. population is trending towards obesity, and
- 10 that obesity is a risk factor for incontinence,
- 11 certainly this device should be expected to be used in
- 12 obese patients.
- 13 BY MR. JACKSON:
- Q. Fair enough. And Ethicon did not say that
- 15 those women couldn't get this device, did they?
- A. No. No, they didn't.
- Q. Okay. And if Ethicon thought that those obese
- 18 women should not get the device, is that something they
- 19 would have put in their warning information?
- MR. KOOPMANN: Object to form. Foundation.
- THE WITNESS: I don't really feel that Ethicon
- 22 should put such a statement in their IFU. Whether they
- 23 would have, I -- I really don't know. Well, they
- 24 didn't, so they -- they didn't.
- 25 BY MR. JACKSON:

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  1 particular patient. So in the correct patient, a TVT-O
- 2 device is an acceptable device to use, yes.
- 3 BY MR. JACKSON:
- Q. Doctor, can you give me an example of
- 5 comorbidity that you may see in a patient where you
- 6 would choose not to implant the TVT-O device?
- A. Prior radiation to the pelvis.
- 8 Q. Okay. And why would prior radiation to the
- 9 pelvis indicate you to not implant the TVT-O device?
- 10 A. Because of poor tissue healing.
- 11 Q. Okay. And is that kind of common knowledge
- 12 that any surgeon would know?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Doctor, do you see the first bullet
  - point on this same page 5 under Warnings and Precautions
- 16 where it says, "Do not use Gynecare TVT obturator
- 17 procedure for patients who are on anticoagulation
- 18 therapy"?
- 19 A. I do.
- Q. And is it fair to say a surgeon would not want
- to implant the TVT-O device on a patient who's on
- 22 Xarelto, for example?
- A. So a surgeon would not want to perform any
- 24 surgery on a patient that was on anti-coagulation,
- 25 including Xarelto. So, yes, that's not just limited to

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- Q. Sure. And, Doctor, why don't you think such a
- 2 statement should have been put in the IFU?
- 3 A. Well, because for the reasons I stated
- 4 earlier, that obesity is a huge risk factor for5 incontinence because incontinence is an incredible
- 6 public health problem for women.
- 7 Surgical procedures need to be developed and
- 8 exist for these women. The TVT-O device, in particular,
- 9 happens to be a much safer procedure for an obese woman
- 10 than other procedures. So I think it might be
- 11 misleading to put in an IFU that it shouldn't be used in
- 12 an obese woman.
- Q. Doctor, the TVT obturator device is obviously
- 14 intended for women with stress urinary incontinence,
- 15 correct?
- 16 A. That is correct.
- Q. As you said, many women with stress urinary
- 18 incontinence also have other comorbidities, correct?
- 19 A. That is absolutely correct, yes.
- Q. And, Doctor, in your opinion, the TVT-O device
- 21 is a perfectly acceptable device for these women despite
- 22 their comorbidities, correct?
- MR. KOOPMANN: Object to form.
- 24 THE WITNESS: In every situation a surgeon has
- 25 to consider the risks and benefits as they pertain to a

- 1 the TVT-O.
- 2 Q. But certainly including the TVT-O?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And that's because the patient could start
- 5 bleeding during the procedure, right?
- 6 A. Absolutely, yes, uh-huh.
- Q. Okay. And that is certainly common knowledge
- 8 among surgeons, correct?
- 9 A. Yes, it is.
- Q. Okay. Doctor, are you offering yourself as an
- 11 expert in what should and what should not be included in
- 12 the TVT obturator devices warnings?
- 13 A. I am offering myself as an expert in -- in
- 14 that, yes.
- Q. So you feel like you're an expert in what
- 16 should and should not be in TVT-O warnings?
- A. Insofar as the warnings are directly related
- 18 to me as a surgeon, yes, I am an expert.
- Q. Doctor, if I can ask you to turn to the next
- 20 page of this document, which says page 6, in the middle.
- 21 The last four in the bottom right-hand corner are 0835.
- 22 Do you see the adverse reaction section?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. The second bullet point says,
- Transitory local irritation at the wound site and a

- 1 transitory foreign body response may occur. These
- 2 responses could result in extrusion, erosion, fistula
- 3 formation and inflammation."
- 4 Did I read that correctly?
- 5 A. Yes, you did.
- 6 MR. KOOPMANN: Object to the form.
- 7 BY MR. JACKSON:
- 8 Q. And, Doctor, we discussed the definition of
- 9 transitory to mean what would be typical postoperative
- 10 pain, correct?
- 11 A. Correct.
- Q. And transitory pain is certainly different
- 13 from long-term chronic pain, correct?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. And, Doctor, is there anywhere in this
- 16 warnings and precautions section or adverse reaction
- 17 section where it mentions long-term pain?
- A. So it does not specifically state long-term
- 19 pain, but they do mention puncture of nerves. And it
- 20 also is common knowledge to any surgeon that any surgery
- 21 can result in a chronic long-term pain. So perhaps not
- 22 necessary to state that.
- Q. Okay. Whether you believe it's necessary or
- not, would you agree there's no specific mention of
- 25 long-term or chronic pain?

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- 1 intercourse is known to pelvic surgeons who are going to
- 2 be implanting a mesh device?
- 3 A. Yes, that is my testimony.
- Q. And so that it doesn't need to be included in
- 5 here because it's a known risk?
  - A. Of pelvic surgery, yes.
  - Q. Okay. Doctor, do you know whether there was
- 8 ever any language in the TVT IFU prior to 2015 to the
- 9 effect that there may be more than one revision surgery
- 10 required after implantation?
- 11 A. To my knowledge, prior to 2015, no. But,
- 12 again, that is, you know, sort of common knowledge that
- if one has an adverse event from a procedure, that
- 14 revision surgeries need to be done. I mean, even
- without using a tape I sometimes have to revise pelvic
- 16 surgery multiple times.
- Q. Doctor, this document mentions that the TVT-O
- 18 should not be implanted in patients who are on
- 19 anticoagulation therapy, correct?
- 20 A. Correct.

21

- Q. We said that's common knowledge.
- 22 A. Yes, that is correct.
- Q. It's fair to say there's some common knowledge
- 24 that was included by Ethicon in this document, correct?
- A. Yes, that is correct. But, again, if they

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- 1 MR. KOOPMANN: Object to form.
- THE WITNESS: Puncture of a nerve by inference
- 3 suggests long-term chronic pain. But, no, it does not
- 4 specifically state chronic pain here.
- 5 BY MR. JACKSON:
- 6 Q. Okay. And, Doctor, is there any mention of 7 acute pain?
- 8 A. Well, again, that -- it's common knowledge
- 9 that all surgeries cause acute pain. As I'm reading
- 10 this again now, transitory, local irritation equates to
- 11 pain in my definition. So it does refer to transient
- 12 pain, yes.
- Q. Okay. And is transient pain the same as acute
- 14 pain in your practice?
- 15 A. Oh, yes, certainly.
- Q. Okay. Doctor, would you agree with me that
- 17 there's no mention specifically of pain with intercourse
- 18 in the adverse reactions or the warnings and precautions
- 19 section of this document?
- A. And, once again, that's just simply a known
- 21 factor when you're performing surgery in the pelvis that
- 22 dyspareunia is a potential event. So I don't know why
- 23 they would specifically put that in there, but I do not
- 24 see the specific word dyspareunia, no.
- Q. Doctor, your testimony is that pain with

- were to put in everything that's common knowledge, thisdocument would have to span years of training. It would
- 3 probably be 25,000 pages long. I don't think everything
- 4 I learned about common knowledge happened from a
- 5 one-page document.
- 6 Q. Doctor, the TVT-O device is designed to be
- 7 implanted without tension, correct?
- 8 A. Yes, that is correct.
- 9 Q. Okay. And, Doctor, when you're implanting a
- 10 TVT-O device, how do you determine whether there's any
- 11 tension on the device?
- A. I place a dilator between the urethra and the
- 13 tape. And then as I'm removing the sheath, I make sure
- 14 that it doesn't move so that there's a little space
- 15 beneath the urethra.
- Q. Doctor, is it your understanding that Ethicon
- 17 teaches surgeons how to properly tension the TVT
- 18 obturator device?
- A. Well, yes, they did teach me in the lab, yes.
- Q. Doctor, when Ethicon taught you in your TVT
- 21 obturator training how to tension or test for tension in
- 22 the TVT obturator device, did they teach you how to
- 23 account for women who are built differently?
- A. I don't recall specifics regarding that. So
- 25 when I say Ethicon, I mean these are surgeons hired by

- 1 Ethicon to teach the procedure. And over time, you
- <sup>2</sup> know, you consult with surgeons about tensioning. And
- 3 in terms of implanting it in a specific anatomical type,
- 4 that is such an individual situation and decision, it
- 5 would really be not -- I don't really believe it would
- 6 be Ethicon's place to specifically teach that. It would
- <sup>7</sup> depend on my own knowledge of anatomy.
- Q. Okay. Doctor, do you see the section on this
- 9 page, page 6, that says "Actions"?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. The last sentence of that paragraph says, "The
- 12 material is not absorbed nor is it subject to
- 13 degradation or weakening by the action of tissue
- 14 enzymes."
- Do you see that?
- 16 A. I do.
- Q. Okay. And do you believe that's a true
- 18 statement?
- A. I do believe that's a true statement, yes.
- Q. Doctor, did you read any Ethicon documents
- 21 specifically dealing with dog studies and Prolene
- 22 sutures and degradation?
- 23 A. Yes, I did.
- Q. And if Ethicon had documents that showed that
- 25 Prolene did, in fact, degrade, would this statement be

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- Q. And you just said that you don't believe that it's relevant whether an Ethicon employee stated that it
- 3 does degrade?
- 4 A. Correct. Well, I don't know who that employee
- 5 is. I don't know what studies he reviewed or what was
- 6 the basis of his opinion. I mean, I've worked with the
- 7 material. I've seen it in the patient. I've been
- 8 practicing 25 -- 24 years as a physician. I've seen
- 9 Prolene. That's been around that long.
- My experience would dictate that it doesn't
- degrade. So, you know, yes, if that employee
- 12 specifically worked in that field and had done studies
- and could show that to me, of course, that would be
- 14 relevant. But I don't know who this employee is.
  - Q. Doctor, if I could ask you to take out just
- 16 your report, which is Exhibit 1. And if I could ask you
- 17 to turn to Page 15, please.
- 8 Doctor, I'm looking at a section entitled,
- 19 "Plaintiffs' Theories are not Supported by the Published
- 20 Medical Literature or My Experience."
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. Doctor, the second sentence says, "Nor have I
- 23 seen any evidence of Prolene mesh degradation in my
- 24 clinical practice. I have not observed degradation of
- the mesh in the instances in which I have implanted it."

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- 1 untrue?
- A. Not necessary -- I mean, no, it depends on
- 3 what the clinical quality of the study was and how
- 4 relevant it is to use in this form.
- 5 Q. Doctor, did you read any testimony of a
- 6 Dr. Barbolt, who's an Ethicon employee, in connection
- 7 with your work in this case?
- 8 A. I'm not certain that -- that name is familiar,
- 9 but I'm not certain.
- Q. Do you recall reading anything an Ethicon
- 11 employee named Dr. Barbolt may have said about
- 12 degradation?
- 13 A. Sorry, I don't recall.
- Q. Doctor, to your knowledge have any Ethicon
- employees testified under oath that the polypropylene
- 16 mesh in the TVT obturator device does, in fact, degrade?
- 17 A. That it does in fact degrade?
- 18 Q. Yes.
- A. I -- so I, to my knowledge, I don't actually
- 20 know that. But I'm not quite sure why that would be
- 21 relevant to my opinion.
- Q. Doctor, one of the opinions you hold in this
- 23 case is that the mesh in the TVT obturator device does
- 24 not degrade, correct?
- 25 A. Correct.

- Did I read that correctly?
- 2 MR. KOOPMANN: Object to form.
- 3 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 4 BY MR. JACKSON:
- 5 Q. So, Doctor, is it your testimony that because
- 6 you have not seen mesh degradation when you're
- 7 implanting mesh that there must not be degradation?
- 8 MR. KOOPMANN: Objection, Counsel. You said
- 9 implanted," and it says "explanted." And then your
- 10 follow-up question was based on your misreading of that
- 11 sentence.
- MR. JACKSON: That's my mistake. I apologize.
- 13 Let me strike that.
- Q. Doctor, the second sentence of this paragraph
- 15 says, "Nor have I seen any evidence of Prolene mesh
- degradation in my clinical practice. I have not
- 17 observed degradation of the mesh in the instances in
- 18 which I have explanted it."
- Did I read that correctly?
- A. Yes, you did.
- 21 Q. Okay. And is it your testimony that because
- 22 you have not observed degradation of explanted mesh in
- 23 the two to three instances you've explanted it, that it
- 24 must not be occurring?
- MR. KOOPMANN: Object to form.

- THE WITNESS: I have explanted different types
- 2 of polypropylene mesh on more than two to three
- 3 occasions. I was referring specifically to two to three
- 4 occasions of the TVT-O device. I do believe my greater
- 5 experience is relevant since the material is the same.
- 6 And, yes, I am testifying that my -- that the fact that
- 7 I have not observed degradation is the basis of my
- 8 statement.
- 9 There is also, however, data showing that
- 10 polypropylene does not degrade. And there are published
- 11 articles that also support my clinical impression.
- 12 BY MR. JACKSON:
- Q. Doctor, you cite to a number of published
- 14 studies in your report, correct?
- 15 A. I do, yes.
- Q. Are any of those studies specifically to laser
- 17 cut mesh?
- A. To be honest, I'm not certain that they're
- 19 specific to -- oh, yes, yes, there are. There were some
- 20 studies with devices that were only made with the laser.
- 21 So I do think there are some in there specific to laser,
- 22 uh-huh.
- Q. Okay. Doctor, would you agree with me that
- 24 there are -- well, strike that.
- Doctor, are there any TVT-O specific studies

- s 1 We leave particles of Prolene in patients all
  - 2 the time with Prolene suture and -- I mean, it's just a

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- 3 commonly used material.
- 4 Q. Okay. And, Doctor, are you aware that
- 5 particle loss associated with the mechanical cut mesh
- 6 was a reason that Ethicon developed the laser cut mesh?
- A. My understanding was that they developed a
- 8 laser cut mesh for ease of production. But I'm sure
- 9 that they were aware of particle loss. I mean because
- physicians wrote in about it. But I don't see why they
- 11 would have used that as a reason. So, no, I was not
- 12 aware. Sorry.
- Q. Okay. And, Doctor, do you know whether
- 14 Ethicon performed any studies to determine whether there
- was or was not clinical significance to any particle
- 16 loss?
- A. I would imagine that study would be very
- 18 difficult to design. But, no, I'm not aware of a
- 19 specific study.
- 20 Q. And, Doctor, you mentioned that you have
- 21 implanted approximately 150 TVT obturator devices in
- 22 your career, correct?
- A. That is correct.
- Q. And do you have a sense of how that breaks
- 25 down between mechanically cut and laser cut mesh?

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- 1 that you cite in your report that deal specifically with
- 2 laser cut mesh?
- 3 A. I don't think so.
- 4 Q. Doctor, are you offering any opinions that
- 5 there is a clinical significance -- clinically -- strike
- 6 that.
- 7 Doctor, are you offering an opinion that there
- 8 is a clinical significance between mechanically cut mesh
- 9 and laser cut mesh?
- 10 A. No, I am not offering opinion that there is a
- 11 difference clinically.
- Q. Doctor, have you seen any Ethicon documents in
- 13 connection with your work in this case showing that the
- 14 mechanically cut mesh has a tendency to fray?
- 15 A. I think there were some documents with reports
- 16 from other surgeons suggesting fraying, but I don't have
- 17 any papers specifically suggesting that it does fray or
- 18 confirmation that it does fray.
- Q. Have you seen documents showing that there is
- 20 particle loss where doctors are saying they believe this
- 21 is causing pain?
- A. Gosh, I did see documents suggesting particle
- 23 loss, but, no, not that it was causing pain. Why would
- 24 it cause pain? But I have not reviewed every document
- 25 given to Ethicon.

- A. Forgive me. I do not. They were fairly
- 2 interchangeable to me. I just used which device was
- 3 presented to me.
- Q. And, Doctor, to your knowledge, does Ethicon
- 5 still sell both the laser cut and mechanically cut TVT
- 6 obturator devices?
  - A. Yes, they do.
- 8 Q. Doctor, if I could ask you to turn to page 7
- 9 of your report. And at the top of this page it says,
- 10 "The TVT is a monofilament, large pore, (Type 1),
- 11 lightweight, Prolene polypropylene mesh sling that is
- 12 placed without tension under the mid-urethra."
  - Did I read that correctly?
- 14 A. Yes, you did.
- 15 Q. And is it fair to say you'd characterize the
- 16 TVT obturator mesh as macroporous?
- 17 A. Yes.

13

- Q. Is macroporous safer than microporous mesh for
- 19 the T -- for the SUI indication?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. And would you agree with me that smaller pore
- 22 microporous mesh is less desirable than macroporous mesh
- 23 for the SUI indication?
  - MR. KOOPMANN: Object to form.
- 25 THE WITNESS: I'm not aware of any currently

- 1 available meshes for SUI that are microporous, but they
- 2 would be less desirable than a macroporous mesh.
- 3 BY MR. JACKSON:
- Q. Doctor, what support do you have for the
- 5 statement that the mesh in the TVT obturator is a large
- 6 pore mesh?
- A. There is a Amid classification that states
- 8 that any mesh, any pore size, greater than 75 microns is
- 9 macroporous.
- Q. And, Doctor, the Amid classification was
- 11 developed in the hernia application, correct?
- 12 A. Yes, it was.
- Q. Doctor are you aware of any Ethicon documents
- 14 where Ethicon employees state that the Amid
- 15 classification is no longer valid?
- A. No, I was not aware of such a document.
- Q. Doctor, do you believe you've done enough due
- 18 diligence to offer the opinion that the TVT-O mesh is
- 19 macroporous?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. And, Doctor, what have you done to determine
- 22 that the TVT-O mesh is macroporous?
- A. I've looked at it. And at some point I've
- 24 measured it with a ruler. That's what I would say.
- Q. And did you look at the mesh and measure it

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  they 1 Q. Doctor, what percentage of your current
  - 2 practice involves pelvic floor surgery?
  - 3 A. Approximately 40 percent.
  - Q. And what comprises the remaining 60 percent of
  - 5 your practice?
  - A. Obstetrics and -- well, routine gynecology.
  - Q. Doctor, on page 1 of your report, Exhibit 1,
  - 8 you note in the education and training section that you
  - 9 have a special interest in pelvic floor surgery; is that
  - 10 correct?

12

- 11 A. That is correct.
  - Q. What does it mean you have a special interest
- 13 in pelvic floor surgery?
- 14 A. Well, I enjoy taking care of these patients.
- 15 Women in this community seek me out for pelvic floor
- 16 procedures. And I keep up on the literature and the
- 17 data in my field --
- 18 Q. Okay.
- 19 A. -- so...
- Q. And, Doctor, if one of your patients is going
- 21 to undergo sling surgery for stress urinary
- 22 incontinence, how do you choose between a retropubic
- 23 procedure and a transobturator procedure?
- 4 A. I choose based on their prior surgical
- 25 history, their age and activity level, and sometimes

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- 1 with a ruler as part of your work in this case or is
- 2 that something you would have done prior to becoming
- 3 involved in this case?
- 4 A. It's something I would have done prior to
- 5 becoming involved in this case.
- 6 Q. Okay. And do you remember when you measured
- 7 the TVT mesh with a ruler how big the pore sizes were?
- 8 A. I -- I probably do not remember what it was
- 9 from that date, but the pore size is 1300 -- 1379
- 10 microns.
- Q. And that's based on your measurements with a
- 12 ruler prior to becoming involved in this case?
- MR. KOOPMANN: Object to form.
- 14 THE WITNESS: That statement is based on the
- 15 published pore size. My recollection of measuring it
- 16 with a ruler is it was more than a thousand microns
- 17 because I was comparing different meshes at the time.
- MR. JACKSON: Why don't we take another break.
- 19 MR. KOOPMANN: Sure.
- THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time on the monitor is
- 21 3:36 p.m. We are now off the record.
- 22 (Recess.)
- THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are back on the record.
- 24 The time on the monitor is 3:47 p.m.
- 25 BY MR. JACKSON:

- 1 factor into their urodynamic studies.
- 2 I counsel patients generally on both
- 3 techniques, though. And I do allow their assessment of

- 4 what the potential adverse events are to help me guide
- 5 which approach I use.
- 6 Q. Okay. And how do the patients get information
- 7 on the relative adverse events of the retropubic versus
- 8 the transobturator approach?
- 9 A. I discuss it with them verbally at one of
- 10 several consultations. And I encourage them to look at
- 11 the different patient brochures, and to talk to other
- 12 women who have had incontinent surgery.
  - Q. You certainly don't expect patients to keep
- 14 abreast of the most recent medical literature, do you?
- 15 A. No, I do not.
- Q. Okay. Does the TVT-O have adverse events
- 17 associated with it that are not associated with the
- 18 retropubic TVT device?
- 19 A. Yes.
- O. Such as?
- A. Such as groin pain.
- Q. And does the retropubic TVT have adverse
- 23 events associated with it that are not typically
- 24 associated with the obturator device?
- A. Yes. Although, with that, it's more that the

- 1 retropubic approach has a greater incidence of adverse
- 2 events than the obturator approach.
- Q. Okay. Is it your understanding that the
- 4 retropubic approach has a higher percentage of bladder
- 5 perforations associated with it than the transobturator
- 6 approach?
- 7 A. That is correct.
- Q. And is it your understanding that the TVT
- 9 obturator approach has a higher percentage of groin pain
- 10 associated with it than the retropubic TVT approach?
- 11 A. That is my understanding, yes.
- Q. And, Doctor, are those examples of different
- 13 morbidities associated with the TVT obturator and the
- 14 TVT retropubic?
- 15 A. Yes, they are examples, uh-huh.
- Q. Okay. So is it fair to say that a higher
- 17 incidence of groin pain associated with the TVT
- 18 obturator device is a morbidity that the obturator
- 19 device has and the retropubic device does not have?
- A. Well, that is a true statement. You know,
- 21 when counseling a patient you have to sort of weigh the
- 22 relative importance of different morbidities. For
- 23 example, puncturing a bladder, or a bowel, or a major
- 24 blood vessel could be a more significant morbidity than,
- 25 say, a groin pain.

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- Q. Well, Doctor, for a patient that comes into
- 2 your office for a prospective SUI repair surgery, how do
- 3 they know whether groin pain or bladder perforation is a
- 4 greater concern?
- 5 A. Principally from my counseling to them. But
- 6 any reasonable person with a reasonable level of
- 7 education would understand that puncturing a -- another
- 8 organ is probably a more significant complication than
- 9 groin pain. But, yeah, it would be from my discussion
- 10 with them.
- 11 Q. Okay.
- 12 A. Lead them in that direction, uh-huh.
- Q. Doctor, when you say that a bladder
- 14 perforation is a more significant complication than
- 15 groin pain -- is that what you said; is that correct?
- 16 A. I did say that, yes.
- Q. Okay. And do you believe that -- let me back
- 18 up.
- Doctor, do you believe in that respect that
- 20 the TVT obturator is an improvement on the retropubic
- 21 TVT device?
- A. In that respect, yes, it is an improvement,
- 23 absolutely.
- Q. Doctor, how do you stay informed on the
- 25 relative advantages of the TVT retropubic and TVT

- 1 obturator products?
- A. So there has been so much published data on
- 3 both of them that I do feel both of them are safe. But
- 4 in terms of keeping up to date on what's coming out
- 5 newly, I read The Green Journal, The Gray Journal, and I
- 6 do watch for pronouncements by AUGS.
- 7 Q. And, Doctor, just briefly, when you say The
- 8 Green Journal and The Gray Journal, what do those refer
- 9 to?
- 10 A. That's the Journal of the American College of
- 11 OB-GYN. That's The Green Journal. The Gray Journal is
- 2 AJOG, which is the American Journal of OB-GYN.
- 13 Q. Thank you.
- Can we mark this as an exhibit, please. I
- 15 believe we are on 9.
- 16 (Exhibit 9 was marked for
- identification and attached hereto.)
- 18 BY MR. JACKSON:
- Q. Doctor, did you discuss an article by Teo,
- 20 et al., in your report?
- A. I don't believe that I did.
- Q. Doctor, have you read the article that's been
- 23 marked as Exhibit 9?
- A. When was this from? 2011.
- Q. Doctor, are you familiar with this study?
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- A. I'm trying to remember if I would have read it
- 2 at the time. I'm not familiar with it at the moment,
- 3 no.
- Q. Okay. And, Doctor, this is from the Journal
- 5 of Urology. Is that a peer-reviewed article -- I'm
- 6 sorry -- strike that.
- Doctor, is the Journal of Urology a
- 8 peer-reviewed journal?
- 9 A. Yes, it is, uh-huh.
- Q. Doctor, do you see on the first page under the
- 11 Results section where 127 women were randomized to
- 12 either the TVT retropubic or the TVT obturator device?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. And, Doctor, do you see the second sentence
- under the Results section that says, "The study was
- stopped early due to excess leg pain in the tension-free
- 17 vaginal tape obturator group"?
  - Do you see that sentence?
- 19 A. Sorry. Where was that?
- Q. Under "Results" on the first page --
- 21 A. Yes

- Q. -- the second sentence. It says the --
- 23 A. Oh, yes, I do.
- 24 Q. -- "study was" --
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Doctor, the second sentence under Results on
- 2 the first page says, "The study was stopped early due to
- 3 excess leg pain in the tension-free vaginal tape
- 4 obturator group."
- 5 Do you see that sentence?
- 6 A. I do.
- Q. Okay. And, Doctor, further down in that same
- 8 Results paragraph there's a sentence that says, "More
- 9 women complained of leg pain after receiving a
- tension-free vaginal tape-operator (26.4% versus 1.7%,
- 11 p=0.0001.)"
- 12 Did I read that correctly?
- 13 A. Yes, you did.
- 14 Q. Okay. So, Doctor, is it your understanding
- 15 that there was a statistically significant difference
- 16 between leg pain in the obturator group versus the
- 17 retropubic group in this study?
- 18 A. Yes, there is a statistically significant
- 19 difference. But as a clinician, it's very important to
- 20 differentiate between statistically significant and
- 21 clinically relevant, so...
- 22 Q. Doctor, is it your understanding that this
- 23 study was stopped early because of the leg pain in the
- 24 TVT obturator group?
- 25 A. That is what they state, yes.

- )6 1
  - (Exhibit 10 was marked for
  - identification and attached hereto.)
  - 3 BY MR. JACKSON:
    - Q. Doctor, do you recall seeing this document

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- 5 which we marked as Exhibit 10 before?
- A. I do think I've seen it before.
- Q. I'll represent to you it is on your reliance
- 8 list in this case.
  - A. Uh-huh.
- 10 Q. Do you see at the bottom of this case it says
- 11 Meng Chen is the associate medical director at Ethicon?
- 12 A. Yes, I do see that.
- 13 Q. Have you ever met her?
- 14 A. No, I have not.
  - Q. Have you reviewed any documents authored by
- 16 Meng Chen in addition to this one?
- 17 A. I do believe there are other documents, yes.
  - Q. Okay. And do you see that on January 29th,
- 2009 where Meng Chen is questioning whether or not the
- general statement about transitory local irritation is
- 21 still sufficient?
- 22 A. Yes.

15

- 23 Q. And do you see what she says above that?
- About an hour later, she tells Bryan, Lisa, "Pardon me,
- from what I see each day, these patient experiences are

- Q. Okay. Could that be an indication of clinical
- 2 significance in the TVT obturator group?
- 3 MR. KOOPMANN: Object to the form.
- THE WITNESS: The authors decided to stop the
- 5 study because of leg pain. But I would need to read
- 6 this more carefully to find out why they chose to study
- it -- to stop it because of leg pain.
- 8 Having performed multiple TVT-O procedures,
- 9 the leg pain I've seen has been transitory and not
- 10 particularly troubling to the patients. So it would
- 11 seem unusual that they would need to stop the study
- 12 based on that.
- 13 And it also would appear, you know, just by
- 14 the technique that you would expect greater leg pain
- with a procedure that involves an exit point in the leg.
- 16 BY MR. JACKSON:
- 17 Q. Okay. Thank you.
- 18
- 19 Q. And, Doctor, is it fair to say you were not
- 20 familiar with this study at the time of -- the time you
- wrote your report in this case? 21
- 22 MR. KOOPMANN: Object to form.
- THE WITNESS: Yes, that would be fair to say. 23
- 24 MR. JACKSON: If we could mark this as
- 25 Exhibit 10.

- 1 not 'transitory' at all"?
- MR. KOOPMANN: Object to form.
- THE WITNESS: Yes, I see that written here.
- BY MR. JACKSON:
- Q. Okay. And do you see she's talking about the
- 6 TVT IFU on tape extrusion, exposure and erosion?
- MR. KOOPMANN: Object to form.
- 8 THE WITNESS: Uh-huh.
- 9 BY MR. JACKSON:
- 10 Q. Doctor, was that a "yes"?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Doctor, are you aware that Meng Chen
- 13 recommended that the IFUs be updated to reflect the kind
- of calls she was getting about permanent pain, and
- chronic pain, and inability to have intercourse?
- 16 A. Well, aware insofar as it's stated here, yes.
- 17 Q. Doctor, do you disagree with the worldwide
- medical director of Ethicon if she said that these
- things needed to be changed to update what was
- 20 happening?
- 21 MR. KOOPMANN: Object to form.
- 22 THE WITNESS: I'm a surgeon that is not in her
- 23 position as the associate medical director. She can
- 24 choose to put whatever information she feels necessary
- 25 in the IFU. So I -- it really isn't my position to

- 1 agree or disagree with her decisions there.
- 2 BY MR. JACKSON:
- Q. But, Doctor, aren't you holding yourself out
- 4 as an expert in this case as to what should and should
- 5 not be included in the TVT warning information?
- 6 A. As the person to whom this IFU is directed,
- 7 yes, I am holding myself up as an expert. So in that
- 8 situation, yes, I am disagreeing that it would be
- 9 necessary to put that information in an IFU.
- Now, her situation is different. She does not
- 11 have the experience with the product that I do and use
- 12 in clinical patients. So she might have come to it from
- 13 a different standpoint.
- 14 Q. Okay. Doctor, do you know that Meng Chen does
- 15 not have the clinical experience implanting the TVT-O
- 16 that you do?
- 17 A. Well, I have not reviewed her CV. But as the
- 18 associate medical director for a large company, I can't
- 19 imagine she's seeing patients daily and performing these
- 20 surgeries daily.
- Q. Would you agree with me that Meng Chen is a
- 22 medical doctor?
- 23 A. Yes, I would.
- Q. Okay. And do you have any knowledge one way
- 25 or another on how many TVT obturator devices Meng Chen

- 1 responsibility. As with any self-respecting pelvic
- 2 surgeon would know that operating in the pelvis carries

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- <sup>3</sup> a risk of dyspareunia. And I would expect that Ethicon
- 4 would get multiple complaints of dyspareunia since this
- 5 is a pelvic surgery technique.
- Q. Doctor, do you believe that Ethicon should
- 7 have included the risks of multiple revision surgeries
- 8 following the TVT-O procedure in the TVT-O IFU?
- A. Once again, this is a risk that a surgeon
- should understand when performing pelvic surgery. So,
- 11 yes, they have a right to put it in. I don't think they
- 12 had a responsibility to put it in.
- Q. Doctor, is it your testimony that the risk of
- 14 multiple revision surgeries is a risk that's inherent
- 15 with any surgery?
- 16 A. Yes, it is.
- Q. And that's common knowledge that any surgeon
- 18 would know?
- A. Yes, it is. If I may state, particularly for
- 20 pelvic prolapse and incontinence, when you're actually
- 21 removing an organ the likelihood of needing to revise it
- 22 is small
- Q. Doctor, if I could ask you to turn to page 11
- 24 of your report.
- 25 A. Yes.

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- 1 has implanted?
- A. No, I do not have direct knowledge, no.
- Q. Doctor, do you believe that the IFU for the
- 4 TVT obturator device should contain information on all
- 5 known risks?
- 6 A. No, I do not agree.
- 7 Q. Doctor, if Ethicon is getting reports in
- 8 post-market surveillance of permanent pain associated
- 9 with the TVT-O device, does the I -- does the TVT IFU
- 10 need to be updated to include that information?
- 11 A. No, it does not.
- Q. Doctor, would you agree -- I just want to make
- 13 sure we're clear -- that the IFU for the TVT-O is a
- 14 source of information that a physician may rely on?
- MR. KOOPMANN: Object to form. Asked and answered.
- THE WITNESS: Yes, it is a source.
- 18 BY MR. JACKSON:
- 19 Q. Okay. Doctor, if Ethicon were getting reports
- 20 of dyspareunia in post-market surveillance, do you
- 21 believe Ethicon had a right to update the IFU to include
- 22 that information?
- A. Ethicon has a right to update and put any
- 24 information they so choose. But particularly with a
- 25 report of dyspareunia, I wouldn't feel that it was a

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  Q. Doctor, I'm sorry. Let's, instead, go to --
- 2 let's go to Page 15 of your report. I apologize.
- 3 A. 15?
- 4 Q. Yes, 15.
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And, Doctor, I'm looking at a section called
- 7 "Plaintiffs' Theories are not Supported by the Published
- 8 Medical Literature or My Experience." Do you see that
- 9 section?
- 10 A. I do.
- Q. And, Doctor, I'm looking at a sentence that's
- 12 about halfway down that paragraph that starts with, "The
- 13 excellent safety." Do you see that sentence?
- 4 A. Yes.
- Q. And it says, "The excellent safety and
- efficacy reported in the medical literature discussed
- 17 above, even after 17 years after the procedure, is
- 18 inconsistent with the idea that mesh is degrading in
- 19 vivo."

- Did I read that correctly?
- A. Yes, you did.
- Q. And, Doctor, what -- what study are you
- 23 referring to when you say "17 years"?
- A. The Cox study had information about that, yes.
  - Q. And, Doctor, is it your testimony that the Cox

- 1 study is the only 17-year study?
- 2 A. No. I should have this at my fingers, but,
- 3 honestly, it's just common knowledge that the TVTs have
- 4 published data regarding -- particularly the retropubic
- 5 data -- out to beyond 17 years, which specific study --
- 6 let me try to remember that. It was -- I should have
- 7 cited it.
- 8 Q. Does the Nielson study ring a bell as a study
- 9 that might have 17-year data?
- 10 A. Yes, that -- yes, it does.
- Q. And just so we can wrap this up, Doctor, is it
- 12 your understanding that there's 17-year data for the
- 13 retropubic non-Exact TVT?
- 14 A. Correct.
- O. And, Doctor, for the TVT obturator device that
- 16 your report is in regards to, what is the longest term
- 17 study that you're aware of for the TVT obturator device?
- A. Eleven years, I think.
- Q. And do you know which study that is?
- A. I did not cite them appropriately. No, I do
- 21 not remember.
- 22 Q. Okay.
- A. But, again, the Cox study refers to both TVT
- 24 and TVT-O. I can take the time to find it.
- Q. Doctor, is it your testimony that the mesh in

- 1 opinions?
  - A. None. I don't feel that it was significant.
- Q. And why don't you feel this IFU update was
- 4 significant?
- A. Because they added additional risks that
- 6 should be known to pelvic surgeons, and pelvic surgeons
- 7 should be implanting this device.
- Q. Doctor, on page 19 of your report, you include
- 9 a section on Ethicon's product brochures; is that
- 10 correct?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And, generally speaking, do you know whether
- 13 the TVT-O brochure always disclosed the risk of
- 14 dyspareunia?
- A. I don't believe it did initially. I think it
- 16 does now, uh-huh.
- Q. And, Doctor, have you read the TVT-O brochure
- 18 prior to implanting the TVT-O device in patients?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And, Doctor, have you also -- strike
- 21 that.
- Doctor, have you provided a TVT-O brochure to
- 23 your patients for them to consider in evaluating whether
- 24 they'd like to have the TVT-O procedure?
- A. Yes, I have.

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- 1 the TVT-O device does not curl, rope or fray after
- 2 implantation?
- 3 A. Yes, that is my testimony.
- 4 Q. And what is your basis for that opinion?
- 5 A. Well, in the few instances that I've seen it
- 6 in the body, and having made it to explant it, it was
- 7 not curled, roped or frayed. It continues to be
- 8 effective. And if it had roped, I would imagine it
- 9 would not be so. There's also, you know, published
- 10 tensile strength data on how it behaves under normal
- 11 circumstances.
- Q. Doctor, if I could ask you to turn to page 18
- 13 of your report.
- 14 A. Certainly.
- Q. And, Doctor, in the last paragraph on page 18
- 16 there's a sentence that says "In 2015," do you see that
- 17 sentence?
- 18 A. Yes.
- Q. It says, "In 2015, Ethicon updated the adverse
- 20 reaction section of the TVT-O IFU to include some of
- 21 these risks."
- Did I read that correctly?
- A. Yes, you did.
- Q. And, Doctor, what significance, if any, does
- 25 Ethicon's 2015 update to the TVT-O IFU have on your

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- Q. Doctor, do you believe you're an expert in
- 2 what sort of warning information should be included in a
- 3 product brochure such as the TVT-O brochure?
- 4 A. Yes, I use product brochures routinely,
- 5 uh-huh.
- 6 Q. Okay. Doctor, you cite a number of
- 7 meta-analyses in your report; is that correct?
- A. That is correct.
- 9 Q. And, just generally, what is a meta-analysis?
- 10 A. It's a compilation of high-quality evidence,
- 11 generally randomized controlled trials, put together to
- 12 form conclusions based on larger numbers than a single
- 13 trial could provide.
- 14 Q. Okay.
- 15 A. If I may elaborate. They're not always
  - randomized controlled trials. However, they include not
- established criteria for what they're going to include,
- 18 but based on generally established criteria and
- specifically established criteria by the authors.
- Q. Okay. And, Doctor, these meta-analyses, as
- 21 you said, contain information from multiple clinical
- 22 trials, correct?
- A. That is correct.
- Q. And so any given meta-analyses might have
- 25 information from many different products in it; is that

|    | Page 118   |    | Page 120   |
|----|--|----|--|
| 1  | correct?   | 1  | Q. And, Doctor, just generally, do you know how          |
| 2  | A. Yes, that is correct.                                 | 2  | one of these meta-analyses actually grades those         |
| 3  | Q. Okay. So, for example, I believe you cite a           | 3  | randomized controlled trials?                            |
| 4  | 2014 meta-analyses by an author named Schimpf,           | 4  | MR. KOOPMANN: Object to form.                            |
| 5  | S-C-H-I-M-P-F  | 5  | THE WITNESS: It would take me some time to               |
| 6  | A. Yes, I do, uh-huh.                                    | 6  | specifically lay out exactly how they grade it, but they |
| 7  | Q correct?   | 7  | grade it on data such as patient size, centers used,     |
| 8  | And does that 2014 meta-analyses contain                 | 8  | numbers lost to follow up, data of that nature.          |
| 9  | information on many different products beyond just       | 9  | BY MR. JACKSON:  |
| 10 | Ethicon products?  | 10 | Q. Doctor, is that part of the methodology of how        |
| 11 | A. Yes, it does, uh-huh.                                 | 11 | a meta-analyses chooses which data to include?           |
| 12 | Q. Doctor, do you know what other sling products         | 12 | A. It's part of the study design generally, yes,         |
| 13 |  | 13 | uh-huh.  |
| 14 | A. I have it right here. Yeah, they included             | 14 | Q. And is that something you discuss in your             |
| 15 |  | 15 | report?  |
| 16 | Q. Doctor, those are all different mid-urethral          | 16 | A. For the specific literature I use. I mean, I          |
| 17 | slings from different manufacturers other than Ethicon,  | 17 | discuss meta-analysis as being a high-quality data, but  |
| 18 | correct?   | 18 | I don't discuss the specific methodology used in each    |
| 19 | A. Yes, that's correct.                                  | 19 | Q. Okay.   |
| 20 | Q. And, Doctor, the Monarc sling you mentioned is        | 20 | A in each report that I pulled report that               |
| 21 |  | 21 | I pulled or used.  |
| 22 | A. Yes.  | 22 | MR. JACKSON: I think that's all the questions            |
| 23 | Q. And I believe the Monarc sling is referred to         | 23 | I have right now. I may have a few on follow-up after    |
| 24 | as a outside-in obturator approach; is that correct?     |    | you.   |
| 25 | A. Yes, it is, uh-huh.                                   | 25 | MR. KOOPMANN: Okay.                                      |
|    | Page 119   |    | Page 121   |
| 1  | Q. And Ethicon's TVT obturator device is referred        | 1  | EXAMINATION  |
| 2  | to as an inside-out obturator device?                    | 2  | BY MR. KOOPMANN:   |
| 3  | A. That is correct, yes.                                 | 3  | Q. Dr. Stanislaus, for the record my name is             |
| 4  | Q. And so, Doctor, the Monarc and the TVT                | 4  | Barry Koopmann. I'm representing Johnson & Johnson and   |
| 5  | obturator have slightly different surgical approaches to | 5  | Ethicon in this case.                                    |
| 6  | them; is that fair?                                      | 6  | Do you practice evidence-based medicine?                 |
| 7  | A. Slightly different, yes, uh-huh.                      | 7  | A. Yes, I do.  |
| 8  | Q. And, Doctor, how can you use data from other          | 8  | Q. What is evidence-based medicine?                      |
| 9  | products to support the safety of the TVT obturator      | 9  | A. It's medicine based on literature analysis and        |
| 10 | product?   | 10 | statistical analysis of the literature.                  |
| 11 | A. It's essentially the same surgery. You're             | 11 | Q. Is some evidence thought of as being more             |
| 12 |  | 12 | powerful than other evidence?                            |
| 13 | an outside-in and an inside-out essentially performs the | 13 | A. Yes.  |
| 14 | same function as say, a Burch, but in a completely       | 14 | MR. JACKSON: Objection. Form.                            |
| 15 | different way. So a Burch is completely different than   | 15 | BY MR. KOOPMANN:   |
| 16 | a Monarc or a TVT-O. But a Monarc and a TVT-O enter the  | 16 | Q. What are the highest levels of evidence?              |
| 17 | same spaces. They're similar enough that they should be  | 17 | A. Meta-analysis and systematic reviews.                 |
|    |  |    |  |
| 18 | considered together.                                     | 18 | Q. And what is the lowest level of evidence?             |

- Q. Okay. Doctor, I know the Schimpf
- 20 meta-analyses and others, they rate the randomized
- 21 controlled trials that they include; is that correct?
- 22 A. Yes, that is correct.
- Q. And they might give them a grade of A, B, C,
- 24 D, for example; is that correct?
- 25 A. Yes.

- MR. JACKSON: Objection. Form.
- MR. KOOPMANN: What's the form objection? 20
- 21 MR. JACKSON: That it's very vague.
- 22 BY MR. KOOPMANN:
- 23 Q. Okay. Go ahead.

24

- A. Observation, individual case reports.
- Q. And where do level 1 studies fall within that

- 1 hierarchy of the different level of evidence within the
- 2 practice of evidence-based medicine?
- 3 A. High.
- 4 Q. And where do internal company documents, or
- 5 PowerPoint presentations, or emails, things like that,
- 6 fall on that hierarchy of evidence?
- 7 A. Very low.
- Q. Does your TVT-O report that's marked as
- 9 Exhibit 1 contain your opinions regarding the safety and
- 10 efficacy of the TVT-O and the labeling for that device?
- 11 A. Yes, it does.
- Q. And do you hold those opinions to a reasonable
- 13 degree of medical certainty?
- 14 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. And are your opinions based, in part, on your
- 16 education, including your medical school, residency, and
- 17 continuing education?
- A. Definitely, they are, uh-huh.
- 19 Q. Are your opinions also based on your clinical
- 20 training and experience?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. Are your opinions also based on your review of
- 23 the peer-reviewed literature regarding the treatment of
- 24 incontinence?
- 25 A. Yes.

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- Q. Are your opinions also based on position
- <sup>2</sup> statements issued by the relevant organizations that
- 3 pertain to your specialty?
  - A. Yes, they are.
- 5 Q. Are your opinions also based on the -- any
- 6 conversations you have with colleagues that are
- 7 gynecologists or urologists treating incontinence in
- 8 women?
- 9 A. Yes, that does form the basis of my opinions.
- Q. Are all of the opinions that you've expressed
- 11 here today given within a reasonable degree of medical
- 12 certainty?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. Are the complications that you've seen in your
- practice consistent with the warnings listed in the
- adverse reaction section of the IFU for the TVT-O?
- A. Consistent with if fewer than, but, yes,
- 18 consistently.
- 19 Q. Is it basic medical and surgical knowledge
- 20 that postsurgical pain can be chronic or temporary?
- A. Yes, it is.
- 22 Q. Is it basic surgical knowledge that if pain
- 23 with intercourse presents itself after any SUI surgery
- <sup>24</sup> that that pain could be temporary or permanent?
- A. Yes, that would be.

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  Q. Is it also basic surgical knowledge that when
- 2 an adverse reaction occurs, further surgery may be
- 3 required to correct that?
- 4 A. Yes, that is known.
- 5 Q. Even multiple surgeries?
- A. Yes, even multiple surgeries.
- Q. And that would be true for the Burch procedure
- 8 or pubovaginal sling procedures?
- A. Yes, that would be true for both of those as
- 10 well. In fact -- yes, I've gone in multiple times on
- 11 pubovaginal sling procedures more so than I think I have
- 12 on the obturator.
- Q. Do you have many patients who you have
- 14 implanted with the TVT-O to treat their stress urinary
- 15 incontinence who experience no complications in
- 16 connection with that surgery?
- A. I'm sorry. Could you repeat that? Have I --
  - Q. Sure. Do you have many patients who you have
- 19 implanted with the TVT-O to treat their stress urinary
- 20 incontinence who have experienced no complications in
- connection with that surgery?
- MR. JACKSON: Objection. Form.
- 23 THE WITNESS: Yes, I have.
- 24 BY MR. KOOPMANN:
- Q. And did you also have some patients who
- 1 experienced a complication?
  - 2 A. Yes, I did.
  - Q. And when those patients experienced
  - 4 complications, did you treat those complications?
  - 5 A. I did.
  - 6 Q. Before you ever used the TVT device or TVT-O

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- 7 device back when you were in medical school, did you
- 8 learn about basic fundamental risks of any surgery?
- 9 A. Yes, I did.

10

- Q. And did you also learn about basic fundamental
- 11 risks of any surgery during your residency?
- 12 A. Yes, of course, I did.
- Q. And did you base your opinions regarding the
- 14 adequacy of the warnings in the TVT-O IFU on all of this
- 15 experience, education and training that we've discussed?
  - A. Absolutely, yes.
- Q. Can you think of a single randomized
- 18 controlled trial that says that TVT-O mesh degraded or
- 19 was cytotoxic?
- 20 MR. JACKSON: Objection. Form.
- THE WITNESS: No, I cannot.
- 22 BY MR. KOOPMANN:
- Q. You've performed research in your career for
- 24 stress urinary incontinence as a part of your continuing
- 5 reading as a gynecologist and surgeon, correct?

- 1 MR. JACKSON: Objection. Form.
- THE WITNESS: Yes, of course.
- 3 BY MR. KOOPMANN:
- 4 Q. Okay. And you testified earlier that you've
- 5 treated 150 patients, approximately, with a TVT-O; is
- 6 that right?
- 7 A. That is right.
- Q. What has your experience been overall with the
- 9 device in the course of treating those patients?
- 10 A. My experience has been that the TVT-O device
- 11 is an extremely effective procedure for stress urinary
- 12 incontinence with a very, very low complication rate.
- Q. Mr. Jackson asked you a question earlier today
- 14 about whether you had seen any documents indicating that
- 15 some Ethicon employee had said the Amid classification
- 16 is no longer valid. Do you remember that question?
- 17 A. I do remember that question.
- Q. Just because one Ethicon employee says the
- 19 Amid classification is no longer valid, does that mean
- 20 the Amid classification is no longer valid?
- A. No, it does not mean that.
- Q. If one doctor, or a handful of doctors,
- 23 reported particle loss outside the context of a
- 24 scientific study that they thought was associated with
- 25 pain, what level of evidence would that be?

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Q. One of the documents that you have included in

- 2 Exhibit 5 is a article by a lead author named Cox; is
- 3 that right?
- 4 A. Yes, uh-huh.
- Q. Would you turn to that article, please.
- A. Okay. Yes.
- 7 Q. If you will turn to the last page of that
- 8 article before the citations start. The last sentence
- 9 of that article in the conclusion section, what do the
- 10 authors say?
- 11 A. "Based on the literature a new gold standard
- 12 first-line surgical treatment for women with SUI is the
- 13 synthetic mid-urethral sling inserted through a
- 14 retropubic or transobturator approach."
  - Q. Even if studies do not specifically track
- 16 dyspareunia or other complications as a primary
- 17 endpoint, do the studies nonetheless comment on
- 18 complications such as dyspareunia?
- 19 A. Yes, they do.
- 20 Q. Would removing all of the sutures used during
- 21 a Burch procedure potentially require aggressive
- 22 dissection?
- 23 A. Definitely.
- Q. Would removing everything that was implanted
- 25 during autologous fascial sling procedure or pubovaginal

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- A. Again, that would be a very low level of
- <sup>2</sup> evidence. And I think I mentioned that earlier when
- <sup>3</sup> asked the question.
- 4 Q. Did you use Prolene suture before ever using
- 5 the TVT or TVT-O devices?
- 6 A. Yes, I did.
- Q. Can you give any estimate of how many times
- 8 you think you've used Prolene suture in your career?
- 9 A. Many thousands.
- Q. There were some questions earlier from
- 11 Plaintiffs' counsel about the wealth of peer-reviewed
- 12 data on the TVT. Do you remember those questions?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. And that is the wealth of peer-reviewed data
- 15 that existed before you decided to start using it.
- 16 A. That's correct.
- Q. Did that data also support your decision to
- 18 start using the TVT-O device?
- 19 A. Yes, of course.
- Q. And why is that?
- A. Because it's basically a modification of a
- 22 surgical technique. So knowing that the TVT was
- 23 effective and safe with extensive data allowed me to
- 24 consider an improvement in safety by performing the
- 25 TVT-O.

- 1 sling procedure using a xenograft or allograft material
- 2 also potentially require aggressive dissection?
- A. Absolutely.
- Q. Are there other reasons that a mid-urethral
- 5 sling procedure using a polypropylene mesh wouldn't work
- 6 besides sling degradation?
  - A. Yes, yes.
- 8 Q. So just because a sling isn't working doesn't
- 9 mean the sling has degraded?
- 10 A. No. That is absolutely true.
- Q. Would you agree that not all brands of meshes
- 12 are the same?
- 13 A. Yes, I would agree with that.
- 14 Q. In other words, Prolene is the product used in
- 15 the TVT family of slings, the mesh in those slings,
- 16 correct?
- 17 A. That is correct.
- 18 MR. JACKSON: Objection. Form.
- 19 BY MR. KOOPMANN:
- Q. And Prolene is not used in other
- 21 manufacturers' mid-urethral slings, correct?
- MR. JACKSON: Objection. Form.
- 23 THE WITNESS: Correct.
- 24 BY MR. KOOPMANN:
- Q. Do you think it was necessary for Ethicon to

|                                 | Page 130  |                | Page 132  |
|---------------------------------|---|----------------|---|
| 1                               | warn about not using the TVT-O procedure for patients   | 1              | pubovaginal sling procedures?                           |
| 2                               | who are on anticoagulation therapy?   | 2              | A. 5.4 percent.   |
| 3                               | A. No, I do not think it was necessary.   | 3              | Q. And is this a study that you reviewed and            |
| 4                               | Q. Okay. Why not?   | 4              | relied upon in forming your opinions regarding the      |
| 5                               | A. Because one should not perform surgery on  | 5              | safety and efficacy of the TVT-O?                       |
| 6                               | patients that are anticoagulated. The bleeding risk is  | 6              | A. Yes, it is a study I relied upon.                    |
| 7                               | too high.   | 7              | Q. What level of evidence is this considered?           |
| 8                               | Q. Do you think that a company has an obligation  | 8              | A. Level 1.   |
| 9                               | to warn of a risk of using a product if that risk is  | 9              | Q. Another study that you reviewed and relied           |
| 0                               | commonly known by licensed users of that device?  | 10             | upon is the Ford, Cochrane review from 2015; is that    |
| 1                               | A. No, I don't think it's an obligation if it's   | 11             | correct?  |
| 2                               |   | 12             | A. That is correct.                                     |
| 3                               | Q. One of the studies you have included in  | 13             | Q. That's a rather large study, is that                 |
| 4                               |   | 14             | correct   |
| 5                               | few questions about that a little bit ago. Would you,   | 15             | A. Yes.   |
| 5                               | please, pull it out.  | 16             | Q in terms of the volume of number of pages?            |
| 7                               | A. Yes.   | 17             | MR. JACKSON: Objection. Form.                           |
| 8                               | Q. In the first page of the Schimpf study, it   | 18             | THE WITNESS: Yes, it is.                                |
| 9                               | says that under the Study Design section it indicates   | 19             | BY MR. KOOPMANN:  |
|                                 | that the authors performed "a systematic review   | 20             |   |
| 0                               | including English-language randomized controlled trials   |                | Q. Okay. And you have a summary of that Cochrane        |
|                                 |   | 21             | review in front of you; is that right?                  |
| 2                               | from 1990 through April 2013 with a minimum 12 months of  |                | A. That is right.                                       |
| 3                               | follow-up comparing a sling procedure for SUI to another  | 23             | Q. I want to mark as the next exhibit an                |
| 4                               | sling or Burch urethropexy"; is that right?   | 24             | excerpt excerpt from that study and ask you some        |
| 5                               | A. Yes.   | 25             | questions about those.                                  |
| _                               | Page 131  |                | Page 133  |
| 1                               | Q. And that included many studies dealing with  | 1              | (Exhibit 11 was marked for                              |
| 2                               | the TVT-O device; is that correct?  | 2              | identification and attached hereto.)                    |
| 3                               | A. Yes, it did.   | 3              | BY MR. KOOPMANN:  |
| 4                               | Q. And those are listed in Table 1 of the study;  | 4              | Q. On the first page of the study where it's            |
| 5                               | is that accurate?   | 5              | below Abstract where it says "Selection Criteria"       |
| 5                               | A. That is accurate.  | 6              | A. Okay.  |
| 7                               | Q. And if you go to Table 3 of that study, one of   | 7              | Q that indicates that the authors looked at             |
| 8                               | the complications that is tracked in this study for   | 8              | "randomized or quasi-randomized controlled trials       |
| 9                               | various incontinence procedures is dyspareunia; is that   | 9              | amongst women with SUI, USI or MUI, in which both tria  |
|                                 | right?  | 10             | arms involve a MUS," or mid-urethral sling "operation"; |
| 1                               | A. That is right.   | 11             | is that right?  |
| 2                               | Q. What was the rate of the dyspareunia seen with   | 12             | A. That is right.                                       |
| _                               |   | 13             |   |
| 3                               | 8   |                | Q. If you'll turn to the next page in the Main          |
| 4                               | particular paper?   |                | Results section. They indicate at the top that they     |
| _                               | A16 percent.  | 15             | included 81 trials in this study that evaluated 12,113  |
|                                 | Q. What was the rate with pubovaginal slings?   | 16             | women; is that correct?                                 |
| 6                               |   | 1 7 7          | A. That is correct.                                     |
| 5<br>7                          | A99 percent.  | 17             |   |
| 6<br>7                          | <ul><li>A99 percent.</li><li>Q. They also track the rate of exposure for</li></ul>  | 18             | Q. Is this high level evidence, this Ford,              |
| 6<br>7<br>8                     | <ul><li>A99 percent.</li><li>Q. They also track the rate of exposure for various incontinence procedures; is that right?</li></ul>  | 18<br>19       | Cochrane review?  |
| 5<br>7<br>3                     | <ul><li>A99 percent.</li><li>Q. They also track the rate of exposure for various incontinence procedures; is that right?</li><li>A. Yes.</li></ul>  | 18             | Cochrane review? A. Yes, it is.                         |
| 6<br>7<br>8<br>9                | <ul> <li>A99 percent.</li> <li>Q. They also track the rate of exposure for various incontinence procedures; is that right?</li> <li>A. Yes.</li> <li>Q. What was the rate of exposure in the studies</li> </ul> | 18<br>19       | Cochrane review?  |
| 5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>9<br>0<br>1 | <ul><li>A99 percent.</li><li>Q. They also track the rate of exposure for various incontinence procedures; is that right?</li><li>A. Yes.</li></ul>  | 18<br>19<br>20 | Cochrane review? A. Yes, it is.                         |

23

24

A. Most definitely.

Q. Would it, in fact, include studies like Teo,

25 that we went over earlier, if that Teo study met the

Q. And what was the rate of exposure for the

<sup>23</sup> with respect to obturator procedures?

A. 2.2 percent.

24

|  | Mareeni Stan   | ~  | ·   |
|--|--|--|---|
|  | Page 134   |  | Page 136  |
| 1  | inclusion criteria for this review?  | 1  | multifilment?   |
| 2  | A. Yes, it would.  | 2  | A. Monofilament.  |
| 3  | Q. And in the authors' conclusions section on  | 3  | THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Excuse me, Counsel. I need  |
| 4  | that same page, it indicates "Mid-urethral sling   | 4  | to change the tape.   |
| 5  | operations have been the most extensively researched   | 5  | MR. KOOPMANN: Okay.   |
| 6  | surgical treatment for stress urinary incontinence in  | 6  | THE VIDEOGRAPHER: This marks the end of Disk  |
| 7  | woman and have a good safety profile. Irrespective of  | 7  | 2, Volume I, in the videotaped deposition of Dr. Mareeni  |
| 8  | the routes traversed, they are highly effective in the   | 8  | Stanislaus. The time on the monitor is 4:43 p.m., and   |
| 9  | short and medium term, and accruing evidence   | 9  | we are now off the record.  |
| 10   | demonstrates their effectiveness in the long-term. This  | 10   | (Recess.)   |
| 11   | review illustrates their positive impact on improving  | 11   | THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're back on the record.   |
| 12   | the quality of life with women with SUI. With the  | 12   | This marks the beginning of Disk 3, Volume I, in the  |
| 13   | exception of groin pain, fewer adverse events occur with   | 13   | videotaped deposition of Dr. Mareeni Stanislaus. The  |
| 14   |  | 14   |   |
| 15   | Did I read that correctly?   | 15   | You may continue.   |
| 16   | A. Yes, you did.   | 16   |   |
| 17   | Q. And does this support your opinions regarding   | 17   | Q. Doctor, do you have page 28 of the Ford,   |
| 18   | the safety and efficacy of the TVT-O device?   | 18   |   |
| 19   | A. Certainly, based on high quality data, yes.   | 19   | A. Yes, I do.   |
| 20   | Q. If you'll turn to the next page in this in  | 20   | Q. On page 28 it discusses the types and rate of  |
|  |  |  |   |
|  | these excerpts. You should you see page 10.  A. Yes.   | 21   | •   |
| 22   |  | 22   | procedures; is that right?  |
| 23   | Q. In the right-hand column it indicates that,   | 23   | A. That's correct.  |
| 24   | "Type 1 meshes are macroporous monofilament meshes"; is  | 24   | Q. And it indicates in the right-hand column  |
| 25   | that right?  | 25   | that, "Both groin and suprapubic pain occurrence were   |
|  | -  |  |   |
|  | Page 135   |  | Page 137  |
| 1  |  | 1  |   |
|  | Page 135   | 1  | Page 137  |
| 1  | Page 135 A. That's right.  | 1  | Page 137 short-lasting, with most resolving within the first six  |
| 1 2  | Page 135  A. That's right.  Q. And what type of mesh is the TVT-O mesh?  | 2  | Page 137 short-lasting, with most resolving within the first six months"; is that right?  |
| 1<br>2<br>3<br>4   | Page 135  A. That's right.  Q. And what type of mesh is the TVT-O mesh?  A. Type 1.  | 3  | Page 137 short-lasting, with most resolving within the first six months"; is that right?  A. That is right. Q. And then if you'll turn to page 30 of  |
| 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>5                                    | Page 135  A. That's right.  Q. And what type of mesh is the TVT-O mesh?  A. Type 1.  Q. And it indicates below those bullet points   | 2<br>3<br>4  | Page 137 short-lasting, with most resolving within the first six months"; is that right?  A. That is right.  Q. And then if you'll turn to page 30 of Exhibit 11, please. There's a section there discussing  |
| 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>5                                    | Page 135  A. That's right. Q. And what type of mesh is the TVT-O mesh? A. Type 1. Q. And it indicates below those bullet points that, "Type 1 mesh has the highest biocompatibility with   | 2<br>3<br>4<br>5<br>6  | Page 137 short-lasting, with most resolving within the first six months"; is that right?  A. That is right. Q. And then if you'll turn to page 30 of Exhibit 11, please. There's a section there discussing   |
| 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>5<br>6                               | Page 135  A. That's right.  Q. And what type of mesh is the TVT-O mesh?  A. Type 1.  Q. And it indicates below those bullet points that, "Type 1 mesh has the highest biocompatibility with the least propensity for infection"; is that right?  | 2<br>3<br>4<br>5<br>6  | Page 137 short-lasting, with most resolving within the first six months"; is that right?  A. That is right.  Q. And then if you'll turn to page 30 of Exhibit 11, please. There's a section there discussing "Sexual Function Quality of Life Measures"; is that  |
| 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7                          | Page 135  A. That's right.  Q. And what type of mesh is the TVT-O mesh?  A. Type 1.  Q. And it indicates below those bullet points that, "Type 1 mesh has the highest biocompatibility with the least propensity for infection"; is that right?  A. Yes, that's right.  Q. And about six or seven lines below that it  | 2<br>3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7   | Page 137 short-lasting, with most resolving within the first six months"; is that right?  A. That is right. Q. And then if you'll turn to page 30 of Exhibit 11, please. There's a section there discussing "Sexual Function Quality of Life Measures"; is that right?  A. That is right.   |
| 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8                     | Page 135  A. That's right.  Q. And what type of mesh is the TVT-O mesh?  A. Type 1.  Q. And it indicates below those bullet points that, "Type 1 mesh has the highest biocompatibility with the least propensity for infection"; is that right?  A. Yes, that's right.  Q. And about six or seven lines below that it says, "Macroporous meshes (pore size in excess of 75   | 2<br>3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8  | Page 137 short-lasting, with most resolving within the first six months"; is that right?  A. That is right.  Q. And then if you'll turn to page 30 of Exhibit 11, please. There's a section there discussing "Sexual Function Quality of Life Measures"; is that right?  A. That is right.  Q. And at the bottom of the left-hand column it   |
| 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8                     | Page 135  A. That's right.  Q. And what type of mesh is the TVT-O mesh?  A. Type 1.  Q. And it indicates below those bullet points that, "Type 1 mesh has the highest biocompatibility with the least propensity for infection"; is that right?  A. Yes, that's right.  Q. And about six or seven lines below that it says, "Macroporous meshes (pore size in excess of 75 microns) easily allow macrophages, leukocytes,  | 2<br>3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8  | Page 137 short-lasting, with most resolving within the first six months"; is that right?  A. That is right.  Q. And then if you'll turn to page 30 of Exhibit 11, please. There's a section there discussing "Sexual Function Quality of Life Measures"; is that right?  A. That is right.  Q. And at the bottom of the left-hand column it says, "In all the trials there was significant  |
| 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10                                     | Page 135  A. That's right.  Q. And what type of mesh is the TVT-O mesh?  A. Type 1.  Q. And it indicates below those bullet points that, "Type 1 mesh has the highest biocompatibility with the least propensity for infection"; is that right?  A. Yes, that's right.  Q. And about six or seven lines below that it says, "Macroporous meshes (pore size in excess of 75 microns) easily allow macrophages, leukocytes, fibroblasts, blood vessels and collagen to transverse  | 2<br>3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>9   | Page 137 short-lasting, with most resolving within the first six months"; is that right?  A. That is right. Q. And then if you'll turn to page 30 of Exhibit 11, please. There's a section there discussing "Sexual Function Quality of Life Measures"; is that right?  A. That is right. Q. And at the bottom of the left-hand column it says, "In all the trials there was significant improvement in sexual function from baseline scores  |
| 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>9<br>10          | Page 135  A. That's right.  Q. And what type of mesh is the TVT-O mesh?  A. Type 1.  Q. And it indicates below those bullet points that, "Type 1 mesh has the highest biocompatibility with the least propensity for infection"; is that right?  A. Yes, that's right.  Q. And about six or seven lines below that it says, "Macroporous meshes (pore size in excess of 75 microns) easily allow macrophages, leukocytes, fibroblasts, blood vessels and collagen to transverse the pores; thus macroporous meshes promote tissue host   | 2<br>3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>9<br>10<br>11   | Page 137 short-lasting, with most resolving within the first six months"; is that right?  A. That is right.  Q. And then if you'll turn to page 30 of Exhibit 11, please. There's a section there discussing "Sexual Function Quality of Life Measures"; is that right?  A. That is right.  Q. And at the bottom of the left-hand column it says, "In all the trials there was significant improvement in sexual function from baseline scores during the follow-up period that spanned 6 to 24 months.   |
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Q. Is the TVT-O mesh monofilament or is it

25

25 opinions regarding the safety and efficacy of the TVT-O

Page 138 Page 140 1 device? 1 thorough review of this document and responded with 2 2 overwhelming support; is that correct? A. Definitely, yes. A. That is correct. 3 Q. I think one of the documents that you brought 4 along today is the AUGS SUFU updated physician Q. And he was indicating that he could now say 5 that, in addition to AUGS and SUFU, other organizations 5 statement. A. Yes. 6 supporting our position statement include A-C-O-G, or 6 7 ACOG, SGS, AAGL, and AUA; is that correct? Q. And you also have a statement by Douglas Hale, 8 M.D., on June 23rd, 2016 pertaining to that statement? A. That is correct. 9 Q. He went on to say, "Likewise, patient advocacy groups, including NAFC and WHF, also added their support 10 MR. KOOPMANN: Let's mark a copy of that 11 Douglas Hale statement as Exhibit 12, please. of the document." Is that correct? 12 12 (Exhibit 12 was marked for A. That is correct. 13 13 identification and attached hereto.) Q. And the AAGL is the American Association of 14 MR. JACKSON: Counsel, do you have one for me? 14 Gynecological Laparoscopists; is that correct? MR. KOOPMANN: Just one second. 15 A. Yes. 16 BY MR. KOOPMANN: 16 Q. And I think you indicated earlier you're a 17 member of AUGS? 17 Q. Dr. Stanislaus, would you take a moment to 18 review that, please. A. I am. 19 (Pause while witness peruses document.) 19 Q. The American Urogynecological Society? 20 BY MR. KOOPMANN: 20 A. Yes. 21 21 Q. Having read this statement we've marked as Q. Another organization that supports this 22 Exhibit 13, does this refresh your recollection that you statement is the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists? 23 have seen this statement in the last few weeks or --24 A. Oh, yes, yes. 24 A. Yes. 25 Q. Okay. And this is a statement that 25 Q. Are you a member of that? Page 141 Page 139 1 accompanied a recent update to the AUGS SUFU position 1 A. I am. 2 statement? Q. Another organization that supports this 3 3 statement is the National Association for Continence; is A. Yes. Q. And the AUGS SUFU position statement on mesh 4 that correct? 5 mid-urethral slings for stress urinary incontinence is A. That is correct. Q. And in the updated AUGS SUFU statement that 6 something that you -- well, it's something that was 7 first published back in 2014, I think; is that right? you have in front of you, that indicates on the third 8 page that the National Association for Continence is the A. That's correct, yes. 9 Q. And that's a document that you've reviewed, national private nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization 10 and relied upon, and cited and discussed in your TVT-O dedicated to improving the quality of life of people 11 general report; is that correct? with incontinence, voiding dysfunction, and related 12 A. That is correct. pelvic disorders; is that correct? 13 Q. And was this AUGS SUFU position statement 13 A. That is correct. 14 recently updated? Q. SGS is the Society of Gynecologic Surgeons; is 15 A. Yes. 15 that right? 16 Q. And that was after you issued your TVT-O 16 A. That is right. 17 17 general report in this case? Q. And they're a supporting organization of this 18 A. Correct, it was. 18 statement? 19 19 Q. Is the updated AUGS SUFU position statement A. Yes. 20 also consistent with your opinions regarding the safety Q. And, finally, the Womens Health Foundation is 21 and efficacy of the TVT-O device? 21 a supporting organization of this statement; is that 22 A. Absolutely, yes. 22 correct? 23 Q. And the -- one of the things that Dr. Hale A. That is correct. 24 notes in Exhibit 12 is that he was happy to announce 24 Q. And that is a nonprofit organization dedicated

25 that the societies contacted by AUGS undertook their own

to improving the pelvic health and wellness of women and

Page 142 Page 144 1 girls throughout -- I'm sorry -- through community based 1 A. Yes. 2 programs and services research and events; is that Q. Okay. And you were asked about Ms. Chen's --3 correct? 3 or Dr. Chen's statement that from what she sees each day A. That is correct. 4 these patient experiences are not transitory at all. Do 5 MR. KOOPMANN: Madam Court Reporter, could you 5 you remember that? 6 please mark this exhibit as Exhibit 14. I'm sorry. A. I do remember that. Before we that, then, could we mark the AUGS SUFU Q. Does the TVT-O IFU say that patient statement as Exhibit 13? experiences of extrusion and erosion, fistula formation 9 (Exhibit 13 was marked for or inflammation are transitory? 10 identification and attached hereto.) 10 A. No. 11 MR. JACKSON: That's the updated AUGS SUFU 11 Q. The Nilson study that was referenced earlier, 12 statement, correct? 12 that had 17-year data on the TVT --13 13 (Reporter clarification.) A. Yes. 14 MR. KOOPMANN: And counsel just corrected me. 14 Q. -- sling, that TVT sling use the same mesh as Q. But Exhibit 13 is the updated AUGS SUFU 15 what's used in the TVT-O; is that your understanding? 16 position statement, correct? 16 A. That is my understanding, yes. 17 17 A. Correct. Q. And you cited that TV -- that Nilson study in MR. KOOPMANN: Thank you, Counsel. 18 18 your report? 19 (Exhibit 14 was marked for 19 A. I did. identification and attached hereto.) 20 20 Q. Do you have a study by a Dr. Athanasiuo in BY MR. KOOPMANN: 21 21 your Exhibit 5. Q. Do you have Exhibit 14 is front of you, 22 22 A. Yes. 23 Dr. Stanislaus? 23 Q. And that study has seven years' data on the 24 A. I do. TVT-O; is that correct? 25 Q. And is this an abstract of a couple articles A. That is correct. Page 143 Page 145 1 that has just been published since you issued your TVT-O Q. You were asked some questions earlier about 2 general report? 2 the TVT family of products brochures and whether they 3 3 contained -- they all contained a warning of a risk of A. Yes. 4 dyspareunia. Do you remember those questions? Q. And the abstract on the second page is 5 entitled, "The Myth: In Vivo Degradation of A. I do. 6 Polypropylene meshes" by Ong, White and Thames. Is that Q. Did you counsel your patients about a risk of 7 correct? dyspareunia even before you saw that in a TVT-O 8 A. Yes. 8 brochure? 9 9 Q. And you've had a chance to review this A. Yes, I did. 10 published abstract since issuing your TVT-O general 10 Q. How did you know to do that? 11 report? 11 A. As a pelvic surgeon, I know to counsel my 12 A. Yes, I have. patients regarding dyspareunia because of my education 13 Q. And what was the conclusion of the authors in and training. 14 that particular abstract? Q. You were asked some questions earlier about 15 A. They concluded that Prolene meshes did not 15 the Teo study that was marked Exhibit 9. Do you have 16 undergo meaningful or harmful degradation in vivo. that in front of you? 16 17 17 Q. Does this abstract support your opinion that A. Yes. 18 the -- that clinically significant degradation of the 18 Q. And this was a study that included a total of 19 TVT-O does not occur? 127 women who were recruited for this study; is that 20 A. Yes, it does. 20 right? Q. You were asked questions by Plaintiffs' 21 A. That is right. Q. If you'll turn to the second page, which is 22 counsel earlier about Exhibit 10, which was an email 22 23 chain, including a couple emails from Dr. Meng Chen. 23 actually numbered 1351 in the Journal. 24 24 A. Uh-huh. A. Yes. 25 Q. Do you recall those questions? 25 Q. Do you see that page?

|    | 12-md-02327 Document 2563-3. Filed 08<br>Mareeni Stan  |     | D 140   |
|----|--|-----|---|
|    | Page 146   |     | Page 148  |
| 1  | A. I do.   | 1   | The revision rate was 2.7 percent for                   |
| 2  | Q. The bottom of the right-hand column in the  | 2   |   |
| 3  | Results section, in the second paragraph there, it says,   | 3   | period; is that right?                                  |
| 4  | "During recruitment a few studies were published showing   | 4   | A. That's what they reported, yes.                      |
| 5  | similar curates for the 2 procedures but a high  | 5   | Q. And the mesh erosion rate was 21.3 percent of        |
| 6  | incidence of leg pain in patients after receiving a  | 6   | those 2.7 percent; is that correct?                     |
| 7  | transobturator tape. After discussing these data at an   | 7   | A. Yes.   |
| 8  | investigator meeting we decided to stop recruitment  | 8   | Q. And the vaginal pain or dyspareunia revision         |
| 9  | before the full calculated sample was recruited since it   | 9   | rate, in other words, the rate at which women had to    |
| .0 | was deemed that clinical equipoise had been lost."   | 10  | have a sling revision due to vaginal pain or            |
| .1 | Is that correct?   | 11  | dyspareunia, was 7.9 percent of the 2.7 percent,        |
| .2 | A. That is correct.  | 12  | correct?  |
| .3 | Q. What is higher level evidence, the Teo study  | 13  | A. That is correct.                                     |
| 4  | or symptomatic reviews in meta-analyses like the   | 14  | Q. And another study that you reviewed and relied       |
| 5  | Schimpf, Ford, Tommaselli and Ogah systematic reviews  | 15  | on in forming your opinions was the Jonsson Funk        |
| 6  | that you cited in your TVT-O general report?   | 16  | registry study from 2013; is that correct?              |
|    |  | 17  | A. That is correct.                                     |
| .7 | A. Of course the systematic reviews and the  |     |   |
| -8 | meta-analyses cited.   | 18  | Q. And that study involved an analysis of a             |
| 9  | Q. And, in fact, do studies like the Schimpf,  | 19  | population-based cohort of 188,454 commercially insured |
| 0  | Ford and Tommaselli and Ogah papers, the systematic  | 20  | women who underwent a sling procedure between 2001 and  |
| 1  | reviews and meta-analyses, and Cochrane reviews, take  | 21  | ,   |
| 22 | into account studies like Teo in the course of their   | 22  | A. Yes.   |
| 23 | systematic review and analysis of the literature?  | 23  | Q. In the nine-year cumulative risk of sling            |
| 24 | MR. JACKSON: Objection. Asked and answered.  | 24  | revision removal in that patient population of 188,454  |
| 25 | THE WITNESS: Yes, they do. In fact, it says  | 25  | women was 3.7 percent; is that right?                   |
|    | Page 147   |     | Page 149  |
| 1  | data on women already recruited would be a value in  | 1   | A. Absolutely, uh-huh.                                  |
| 2  | future systematic reviews in metanalysis in that paper.  | 2   | Q. You also reviewed and relied on and cited in         |
| 3  | BY MR. KOOPMANN:   | 3   | your TVT-O general report a study by a Dr. Welk         |
| 4  | Q. You also cited some registry studies that   | 4   | A. Yes.   |
| 5  | discuss very large numbers of patients   | 5   | Q in 2015; is that correct?                             |
| 6  | A. Yes.  | 6   | A. Yes.   |
| 7  | Q is that correct?   | 7   | Q. Would you, please, pull up that study?               |
| 8  | A. That is correct.  | 8   | A. Okay.  |
| 9  | Q. And you've cited those and discussed them in  | 9   | Q. This was a population-based retrospective            |
| .0 | your TVT-O general report?   | 10  | cohort study of all adult women undergoing synthetic    |
| .1 | A. I have.   | 11  | mesh surgery for SUI in Ontario, Canada from April 1st, |
|    |  |     |   |
| .2 | Q. One of those studies is a study by a Dr. Unger  | 12  | 2002 through December 31st, 2012, right?                |
| .3 | and colleagues?  | 13  | A. That's right.  |
| .4 | A. Oh, yes, uh-huh.  | 14  | Q. And that included 59,878 women; is that right?       |
| .5 | Q. Do you have that study in front of you in   | 15  | A. That is right.                                       |
| 6  | Exhibit 5 or in or separately?   | 16  | Q. And complications were treated in 1,307 of           |
| .7 | A. I have it in Exhibit 5.   | 17  | ,   |
| 8. | Q. Do you have that in front of you now?   | 18  | A. That's correct.                                      |
| 9  | A. Yes.  | 19  | Q. And that's a 2.2 percent complication rate; is       |
|    |  | 100 | 1 1 1 1 10  |
| 0  | Q. The Unger study was a case controlled study of  | 20  | that right?   |
| 20 | Q. The Unger study was a case controlled study of 3,307 patients receiving a mid-urethral sling over a | 21  | A. Yes.   |

22

24

25

A. Yes.

A. That's right.

24

25

<sup>23</sup> necessitating revision surgery; is that right?

Q. And the revision rate -- strike that.

22 10-year period to analyze indications and risk factors

Q. And the 10-year cumulative incidence of

Q. And that's a study that supports your opinions

23 complications was 3.29 percent; is that correct?

- 1 regarding the safety and efficacy of the TVT-O device?
- 2 A. Yes, definitely.
- 3 MR. KOOPMANN: Those are all the questions I
- 4 have for you. Thank you, Dr. Stanislaus.
- 5 MR. JACKSON: I have a few follow up.
- 6 Counsel, can I get a copy of Exhibit 13? I
- 7 didn't get it.
- 8 MR. KOOPMANN: Yes. Which is that?
- 9 THE WITNESS: That's the updated physician
- 10 statement.
- MR. KOOPMANN: So that -- that copy was just
- 12 included in her materials. I don't know if I have an
- 13 identical copy to that, but I have --
- MR. JACKSON: Could we just go off the record
- 15 for a second?

21

- THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time on the monitor is
- 17 5:05 p.m. We're going off the record.
- 18 (Off the record discussion.)
- 19 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Going back on the record.
- 20 The time on the monitor is 5:06 p.m.
- 22 FURTHER EXAMINATION
- 23 BY MR. JACKSON:
- Q. Doctor, could I ask you to take out
- 25 Exhibit 14, which is marked as Exhibit 14.

- 1 A. That is correct.
- Q. And, Doctor, on the first and second pages of

Page 152

Page 153

- 3 this document there's something that says,
- 4 "Justification for the Position Statement"; is that
- 5 correct?

12

- 6 A. Yes.
- Q. And one of the things that's a justification
- 8 for this position statement is that the FDA has clearly
- 9 stated that polypropylene mid-urethral slings is safe
- 10 and effective for the treatment of SUI; is that correct?
- 11 A. Yes, that's correct.
  - Q. So, Doctor, is the fact that the FDA has
- 13 spoken on the safety of mid-urethral slings important to
- 14 your opinions in this case?
- MR. KOOPMANN: Object to form.
- THE WITNESS: It is important insofar as it
- 17 forms the basis for this justification, yes.
- 18 BY MR. JACKSON:
- Q. Okay. Doctor, do you believe you could offer
- 20 the same opinions in this case without making reference
- 21 to AUGS or the FDA?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. Doctor, do you believe statements made by AUGS
- and the FDA are strong evidence that support your
- 25 opinions in this case?

Page 151

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. And you were just asked some questions by
- 3 counsel about a study on the second page of this
- 4 Exhibit 14; is that correct?
- 5 A. That is correct.
- 6 Q. And the title of that study is "The myth: In
- <sup>7</sup> Vivo Degradation of Polypropylene Meshes"; is that
- 8 correct?
- 9 A. Yes.
- Q. Are you familiar with any of the authors of
- 11 this study?
- 12 A. No.
- Q. Are you aware that Dr. Thames is currently a
- 14 expert for Ethicon in this litigation?
- 15 A. I am, yes.
- Q. Okay. And, Doctor, this study that you were
- 17 just asked about, what level of evidence is this?
- A. It's basic science evidence, but low level in
- 19 terms of the randomized controlled trial level.
- O. So it's not level 1 evidence?
- A. No, it is not level 1 evidence.
- Q. Doctor, you were asked some questions about an
- 23 Exhibit 13, which is a AUGS SUFU position statement
- 24 update that has come out since your expert report in
- 25 this case; is that correct?

- 1 A. I do.
- Q. And would you like to be able to talk about
- 3 statements made by AUGS and the FDA at trial?
  - A. Yes, I would.
- 5 Q. Doctor, when counsel was asking you some
- 6 questions a few moments ago, I believe you stated that
- 7 you've implanted many thousand Prolene sutures in your
- 8 career; is that correct?
- 9 A. That's correct.

- Q. Okay. And aside from the Burch procedure,
- 11 what indications have you implanted Prolene sutures for?
- A. Oh, for sacrospinous ligament fixation,
- 13 multiple vaginal vault suspension procedures,
- 14 paravaginal defect repairs. Oh, Prolene. Probably used
- 15 some in repair of abdominal fascia. And, sorry, I did
- 16 use some on the razin prorare procedures. We used
- 17 Prolene then.
- Q. Okay. Is that it?
- A. There may be others, but those are the
- 20 principal ones, yes.
- 21 Q. Doctor, do you know when the Tommaselli study
- 22 was published?
- A. I have to look that up. I think it was 2013.
- 24 Let me --
- 25 Q. Doctor --

|  | Page 154   | Page 156   |
|--|--|--|
| 1  | A. 2015. Yes, 2015.  | 1  |
| 2  | MR. KOOPMANN: Counsel, your time's up.   | 2 ERRATA<br>3  |
| 3  | MR. JACKSON: Okay. I have no more questions.   | 4 PAGE LINE CHANGE   |
| 4  | THE WITNESS: Okay.   | 5  |
| 5  | THE VIDEOGRAPHER: One moment, please.  | REASON:  |
| 6  | This marks the end of Disk 3, Volume I, in the   | 6 PAGE LINE CHANGE   |
| 7  | ······································   | 7  |
| 8  | the monitor is 5:12 p.m., and we are now off the record.   | 8 REASON: 9 PAGE LINE CHANGE   |
| 9  | THE REPORTER: Did you want a copy of this?   | 10   |
| 10   | MR. KOOPMANN: We have a standing order with  | REASON:  |
|  | Golkow.  | PAGE LINE CHANGE   |
| 12   | (At the time of 5:12 p.m. the deposition   | 12   |
| 13   | was concluded.)  | 13 REASON:   |
| 14   |  |  |
| 15<br>16   |  | REASON:  |
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| 18   |  | PAGE LINE CHANGE   |
| 19   |  | 18 REASON:<br>19 PAGE LINE CHANGE  |
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|  | Page 155   | Page 157   |
|  | Page 155 PENALTY OF PERJURY CERTIFICATE  | Page 157  1 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER  |
| 1 2  | Page 155 PENALTY OF PERJURY CERTIFICATE  | 1 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER  |
| 1 2 3  | _  | 1 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER 2 I, ASHALA TYLOR, CSR No. 2436, in and for the State  |
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